

## New York blast lawyers protest gag order

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A gag order in the World Trade Centre bombing case has silenced only the defendants, subjecting them to "extraordinary harm" from government leaks, defence lawyers told an appeals court Tuesday. "Everybody has been speaking out on this case except for the defendants and their lawyers," Martin Garbus told the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York. Both lawyers asked the three-judge panel to overturn Mr. Duffy's order as unconstitutional. The panel did not rule immediately. Mr. Garbus represents Nidal A. Ayyad of Maplewood, New Jersey, while Mr. Neubauer represents Mohammad Salameh of Jersey City. The 25-year-old defendants are among five men charged with using explosives to damage the World Trade Centre on Feb. 26. The blast in a parking garage shook the twin towers with the force of an earthquake, killing six people, injuring more than 1,000 and causing damage that forced much of the complex to close for a month.

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AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 29-30, 1993, THU EL QU'DEH 8-9, 1413

## Khamenei slams peace talks, Mubarak

**TEHRAN (AFP)** — Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Wednesday blasted the resumption of the Middle East peace talks and accused Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak of "begging to the United States." In a speech to Iranian officials in charge of the Mecca pilgrimage, the spiritual and political leader of the Islamic republic called Arab talks with Israel as "dishonourable." "No-one has the right to sign an agreement on behalf of Palestinian people and sell Palestine to its usurpers," Ayatollah Khamenei said, according to state radio. "We hope this agreement will never be signed." If it is, it will not be honoured by the people of Palestine and Muslims all over the world." Washington "is making a mistake," he said. "Gathering Arab governments around a dishonourable negotiating table would only make them more contemptible to and distant from their own people." He said Mr. Mubarak, "like a beggar with extended hand, has gone to the American president to complain about Iran." Mr. Mubarak has repeatedly accused Iran of backing fundamentalist militants in Egypt. During a trip to Washington earlier this month, he and President Bill Clinton vowed to counter Iran's "involvement in terrorism."

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Next issue on Sunday

**THE JORDAN TIMES** will not be published on Saturday, May 1, since the newspaper will be observing the Labour Day holiday on Friday, April 30. The next issue of the paper will appear on Sunday, May 2. The Jordan Times wishes its readers and advertisers a happy Labour Day holiday.

## No free German sub for Israel

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — German Defence Minister Volker Rueste told Israeli leaders that his government does not have the money to build a third submarine for Israel for free, as it had requested, a newspaper reported Wednesday. Germany is paying for two Dolphin submarines for the Israeli navy as part of a military aid package granted after the 1991 Gulf war. The two submarines, being built at a shipyard in the German port city of Kiel, cost about \$80 million marks (\$550 million). German leaders told Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin during a September 1992 visit to Bonn that they would favourably consider giving Israel a third submarine, the Haaretz daily said Wednesday. But Mr. Rueste told Mr. Rabin in a meeting Tuesday that money was tight because of the high cost of German unification, Haaretz said.

## Gunmen kill policeman in southern Egypt

**ASSUIT, Egypt (AP)** — Gunmen shot and killed a plainclothes policeman in southern Egypt Wednesday as he was on his way to work. Muslim extremists claimed responsibility for the attack. Police said three gunmen opened fire on Hassan Kamel Barakat, 43, in Al Qusai town just south Dairut, a focus of Muslim extremist violence 300 kilometres south of Cairo. The official said the assailants fled in a car in the direction of Dairut. Police set up roadblocks looking for them. In Assuit, an extremist stronghold 70 kilometres further south, Al Gamma Al Islamiya (Muslim Group) told local reporters it was responsible for the targeted shooting. It said the attack was in response to the government's announcement on Monday that it captured an extremist cell responsible for five attacks against foreign tourists and official figures.

## American missing in Iraq-Kuwait border

**WAUQUET CITY (AP)** — An American oil worker has disappeared along the Kuwait-Iraq border, officials said Wednesday. The American has reported missing two days earlier after Kuwaiti border guards saw him lead north, according to Sheikh Ali-Salem Al Sabah, Kuwait's interim interior and defence minister. The Interior Ministry told the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM) that the American was missing, but UNIKOM officials said they knew nothing about the case. The Kuwaiti newspaper Al Naba Monday reported the disappearance of a worker for the state-owned oil company, identifying him as Ken Bates. Santa Fe officials confirmed he was missing but gave no details.

## All Sudan peace like start in Abuja

**BUJA (R)** — Full peace talks between Sudan's government and southern rebels opened in Abuja Saturday but were interrupted by a rebel demand for an international observer. The government posed the demand at Nigerian-mediated talks saying it was not of a pre-agreement. Nal Deng, spokesman for Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), said General Garang requested an observer during his meeting with Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida earlier this month. "We believe this is an essential condition that must not be breached although we still have absolute confidence in the starting role of Nigeria," Mr. Deng told reporters. He said the observer could be any member of international community involved in the Sudanese conflict.

# U.S. move boosts hopes in peace process

## Combined agency dispatches

**THE NINTH** round of Arab-Israeli bilateral peace talks marked its second day with an added Arab expectation that an American promise to assume a more active role could bring about a fairer Middle East peace process.

Syria and Israel argued Wednesday over how direct a role the U.S. should play in the negotiations.

"We are pleased with the fact that the United States is intimately involved," Israel's chief negotiator with Syria, Itamar Rabinovich, told reporters when he arrived at the State Department for the morning's talks.

But he added: "We are also pleased with the limits set by the United States on its role as 'full partner.' It is not an excessively active role, nothing is done to corrode the character of these negotiations as direct negotiations."

Syria's chief negotiator, Mouwafak Al Alfaf, made it clear a few minutes later that his country was ready for more direct intervention by the United States and Russia, the two sponsors of the 18-month-old peace process.

"I do not see any objection, if there are difficulties, that the co-sponsors sit with the sides that are facing difficulties in order to help them," he said.

Israel also resumed talks with Jordan and Lebanon on Wednesday. A session between Israel and the Palestinians was set for Wednesday afternoon.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa welcomed the active U.S. role in the peace talks and said it hoped it will bring



U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher Tuesday chairs a meeting with delegates to Middle East peace talks in Washington. From left to right are: Palestinians Haidar Abdal Shafi and Faisal Rubinstein, Eitan Beinart and Danny Rothschild (AFP photo)

suggestions to overcome differences.

An Arab diplomatic source emphasised that Mr. Christopher's meeting with all the sides marked a change in the U.S. approach. The new administration is "more active" than the previous administration, he said.

"The United States wants to show that it can advance the peace process. If this round fails, it will be slap in the face for the new administration after months of efforts to restart the talks," an Israeli delegate told AFP.

Before a Senate subcommittee, Mr. Christopher had emphasised the determination of the United States to work actively with all sides, offering help, ideas and

how frustrated we are," he told reporters Tuesday night.

Mr. Christopher's intervention, as Mideast talks resumed after four months, seemed to signal a more aggressive role in the search for agreement on Palestinian self-rule and peace between Israel and Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

But as he posed for pictures in a conference room with the chief Israeli, Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian and Lebanese negotiators, Mr. Christopher said the United States would not make a specific proposal.

"We'll continue to play the role we have over the last few months, a partner in the sense of an honest broker," he said.

"Direct negotiations is the only way to achieve peace," he said.

At the same time, he urged

Israel and the Arabs "to focus on the substance of the negotiations — not process, not procedure, but to get down to the real substance of the negotiations."

Taking part in Mr. Christopher's session with the delegation heads was Viktor Gogovitz, a Middle East specialist in the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Christopher said he thought it was the first time a secretary of state had met with the principal negotiators.

As the talks resumed, Israel insisted that Syria spell out its peace terms and Syria demanded surrender of all land the Israel seized in the 1967 war.

"There is nothing important to report today," Mr. Alaf said after the two sides had met for two hours Tuesday. Agreeing, Mr. Rabinovich, who doubles as Israel's ambassador to the U.S. and as a negotiator, told reporters: "Much was not accomplished today."

He said Syria had been "rather vague" about its peace offer. But Mr. Rabinovich said, "there is a mutual agreement to move forward."

"We posed relevant questions to the Israeli side and we shall continue hoping that we will receive answers to our questions very soon," Dr. Abdul Shafi said, warning "he cannot really continue to be engaged in a negotiating process that continues without any results."

"And we can't assume such responsibilities," he added, "so we ought to know in a short time where things stand and whether there will be enough to allow for progress and advance in the negotiating process."

The head of the Israeli delegation: Elyakim Rubinstein, in turn

called the day a "fruitful" one. "We laid down our approach to the negotiations both in general principles and in the specific avenues," Mr. Rubinstein said, stressing the need to "engage in substantive."

"We will continue to try to engage on most of these avenues with the spirit of achieving results, moving ahead, understanding each other problems and needs," he said.

Jordan's chief delegate Abdul Salam Majali expressed doubts on progress between Jordan and Israel, if the Israeli did not make headway with other groups.

Israeli negotiator Uri Lubrani called talks with the Lebanese very positive.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday that Israel was prepared to "take risks to bring about peace."

"We have good chances to move towards peace in the Middle East," Mr. Rabin told a United Jewish Appeal delegation in Israel, adding: "We are ready to take risks to bring about peace, as we took to make war."

The prime minister said to the American fundraisers: "Israel will do all it can to make peace with its Arab and Palestinian neighbours in the mutual interest of all the parties involved."

Mr. Rabin predicted that "next year we will find ourselves at a crossroads, and we'll know whether the Middle East is headed towards peace or immobilisation, violence and terrorism."

The Israeli prime minister said he had spoken by telephone with Mr. Christopher and Israeli diplomats at the peace talks.

He did not reveal the contents of the conversations.

## 30 Palestinian exiles since 1967 get Israeli clearance to return

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

**AMMAN** — Palestinian exiles living in Jordan packed their bags and prepared to return to their homes Wednesday after reports from Washington confirmed Israeli acceptance to allow 30 Palestinian exiles to return to the occupied territories.

A list of names released simultaneously by the Palestinian delegation to peace talks with Israel in Washington and Palestinian sources in Amman indicated that last-minute attempts failed to persuade the Jewish state to increase the number of "returnees" to 35, including at least three prominent student activists who were expelled by the occupation authorities.

The exiles are expected to return to the occupied territories as early as Friday morning.

"We expect that they may be going back Friday," Maoudou Nofal, a close advisor to PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat told the Jordan Times Wednesday by phone from Tunis.

Most of the people included in the list are believed to be independent supporters of the mainstream leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) although none of currently occupy any senior office except, in some cases, membership in

Amin Makhlouf, along with Mr. Barghouti and Mr. Ashuri, was to be the third Fatah supporter to be stricken from the list.

Three of "returnees" — Abdul Jawad Saleh, Hanna Nasir and Walid Kamhawi — are former members of the PLO Executive Committee and still have seats on the PNC. The list includes 30 names out of 50 originally drawn up by the PLO and given to the Israelis for approval.

The Palestinians sought to include five more exiles, belonging to the mainstream Fatah group.

The last minute withdrawal of the five names by Israel was due to pressure from the Israeli opposition Likud party, Palestinian officials said.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu put pressure on (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Rabin to take some of the names off the list," said a PLO official.

Leaders of student unions from the West Bank's two largest and most politically active universities — Al Najah in Nablus and Bir Zeit in the town of Bir Zeit — were on the list of five which Israel vetoed, the official said.

Moscow, April 29 (UPI) — Hardline lawmakers, undeterred by their loss in a leadership referendum, renewed their battle with Boris Yeltsin Wednesday by reviving corruption allegations and accusing him of making secret deals on Yugoslavia.

They also aimed at one of his main economic goals: Privatisation of Soviet-era state industries.

The new offensive from anti-Yeltsin legislators fulfilled predictions that Sunday's nationwide referendum would not end the political skirmishes that have plagued the government for months.

Official returns have confirmed Mr. Yeltsin's victory in the vote on his leadership and economic policies. But Mr. Yeltsin failed to get enough support to call for early elections in an attempt to unseat the communist-era lawmakers who remain his most vehement foes.

Workers rescued two men from beneath the refuse and recovered 13 bodies by 4:30 p.m. (1330 GMT), said city official Mahmud Koca. Three other men injured in the blast were rushed to a hospital earlier.

Reefat experts at the scene believed the people still trapped had no chance of survival because of the toxic and inflammable methane gas produced by the decomposing garbage.

Yeltsin spokesman Viacheslav

## Peres pledges status quo during autonomy

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Wednesday Israel was ready to give the Palestinians a timetable instead of a map" at this stage of the Middle East peace talks.

Speaking during a special parliamentary debate, Mr. Peres said that Israel would not alter the status of the occupied territories during an interim stage of self-rule under negotiation at the peace table in Washington.

The following is the list of "returnees":

Rawhi Al Khateb; Abdul Jawad Saleh; Naim Al Ashhab; Abdul Aziz Al Hajj Ahmad; Hafsa Nasir; Ayman Shu'aib; Issam Abdal Hadi; Ayad Warrad; Mahmoud Shukair; Hassan Abdal Jawad; Mustafa Milhem; Faisel Kansan; Walid Kamhawi; Dawoud Erakat; Adil Dallal; Rushdi Shabani; Adnan Bakari; Kamal Al Dajani; Khalil Sawanir; Abdallah Suryani; Mahmoud Hammad; Musa Al Shakhshe; Damin Hassan Odeh; Siyah Shahie; Ibrahim Abu Jurd; Mahmoud Mufid; Bad' Al Yaziji; Mahmoud Al Zaghar; Shakir Abu Jumleb; Samih Amin Al Nasr.

Leaders of student unions from the West Bank's two largest and most politically active universities — Al Najah in Nablus and Bir Zeit in the town of Bir Zeit — were on the list of five which Israel vetoed, the official said.

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Yeltsin spokesman Viacheslav

## 2 Gazans killed; Israel wants foreigners to replace workers

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (Agencies) — Israeli troops yesterday shot dead two Palestinians in the Shati and Bureij refugee camps of the occupied Gaza Strip. Palestinian sources said.

Rami Abu Nahel, 12, was shot in the head as he threw stones during a demonstration against Israeli soldiers posted on a rooftop at the Shati camp.

Earlier, Israeli troops shot Khalil Alhaiel, 20, in the chest in a similar incident in the Bureij camp. He died before reaching hospital.

On Tuesday, Israeli troops shot and wounded 55 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, 22 of them in the Bureij camp.

Witnesses said the army fired live ammunition in response to light stone-throwing without first using tear-gas as it usually does.

In another development, officials said Israel is to import building labourers to replace some of the thousands of Palestinians thrown out of work by an indefinite ban on them leaving the occupied territories.

An inter-ministerial committee

has been set up to decide how many workers to bring in for the construction industry and to review the economic effects of the month-long closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The building contractor's association, representing the construction industry which claims to be losing nearly \$2 million a day, has demanded 10,000 foreigners. Members have threatened to refuse to take on unemployed Israelis — who are untrained and cost more — unless foreigners are found quickly.

Labour Minister Orna Namir said Wednesday that "far fewer than 10,000" foreigners would be brought in.

According to Israel's employment service 100,000 Israelis, 30,000 Palestinians and 425 foreigners were legally employed in the construction industry before the occupied territories were sealed at the end of March.

But an estimated 30,000 more Palestinians were illegally working in the industry, usually at cheap rates and without any social rights.

Nearly 120,000 Palestinian

workers in Israel before the ban.

Since the closure the authorities have granted special work permits to only 5,000

The grand prize and other prizes will be handed to the winners on the day of the march, May 14, 1993, at Nazek Al Hariri Centre.

**Other prizes**

Drawing the lots will take place May 12, 1993 and results will be announced in the local press.

For information please call tel. 611065

**TICKETS ARE SOLD AT**

AMMAN:

- 1. Safeway
- 2. Al Rainbow Star - 1st Circle
- 3. George Sahliyah Electric Shop - Jabal Amman - Mutran Street
- 4. The Flowers Club - Jabal Amman - Astra building
- 5. Flowers Club - Al Fareed Complex - Al Abdal.
- 6. Burqan for handicrafts - 2nd Circle
- 7. Bonita Restaurant - Second Circle
- 8. Firas Bookshop - 3rd Circle
- 9. Fayez Beauty Shop - Umm Uthaina - near San Rock Hotel
- 10. Sweet Supermarket - Umm Uthaina
- 11. Kishk Jewellery - Umm Uthaina
- 12. Antoine Beauty Shop - 5th Circle
- 13. Al Khouri Pharmacy - 6th Circle
- 14. Rwand Pharmacy - Wadi Saqra
- 15. Firas Pharmacy - Jabal Al Hussein
- 16. The Interior Circle Pharmacy - Jabal Al Hussein

**OTHER PRIZES:**

- 1. Second prize: DAEWOOD televisions set, coloured, 29 inches, presented by the South Electronics Establishment.
- 2. Third prize: OKI OF-7 facsimile machine, presented by the Modern Arab Establishment for Business.
- 3. Fourth prize: Amman-Toronto-Amman air ticket, presented by the Royal Jordanian.
- 4. Fifth prize: Amman-Frankfurt-Amman air ticket, presented by the Royal Jordanian.
- 5. Sixth prize: Samsung television set, 14 inches, presented by Ahmad Issa Murad Company.
- 6. Seventh prize: Samsung television set, 14 inches, presented by Ahmad Issa Murad Company.
- 7. Eighth prize: Goldstar television set, 14 inches, presented by Darwish Al Khalili Company.
- 8. Ninth prize: Goldstar television set, 14 inches, presented by Darwish Al Khalili Company.
- 9. Tenth prize: Amman-Rome-Amman air ticket, presented by the Royal Jordanian.
- 10. Eleventh prize: Amman-Greece-Armenia air ticket presented by the Royal Jordanian.
- 11. Twelfth prize: Sony stereo set, presented by Sony Company.

In addition to other consolation prizes

JORDAN TIMES  
TEL: 667171

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

- 17:30 Pif et Hercule  
17:45 Superchamps  
18:15 L'école des fans  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Fusion  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
21:10 Quantum Leap  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 Feature film: Drive Like Lightning

### PRAYER TIMES

Fajr (Sunrise) Dhuhr  
12:34 Asr  
16:13 Maghreb  
20:43 Isha

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be northwesterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman 8/24  
Aqaba 16/31  
Desert 6/25  
Jordan Valley 14/30

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swiefti Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 622342  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 21, Aqaba 29. Humidity readings: Amman 27 per cent. Aqaba 13 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:	
Dr. Bahjat Bader	849362
Dr. Ahmad Yusef	786334
Dr. Mahmoud Al Abdali	778559
Dr. Mahmoud Al Hamedi	887877
Firapharmacy	641912
Ferdous pharmacy	778336
Al Asmaa pharmacy	637053
Nasrullah pharmacy	636372
Al Salam pharmacy	636449
Sheraton pharmacy	637469
Najib pharmacy	847632
IRBD:	
Dr. Ali Al Shugairi	(--)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Abdul Karim Khashanchi	(--)

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman 8/24  
Aqaba 16/31  
Desert 6/25  
Jordan Valley 14/30

## Eritrea faces struggle to rebuild

NAIROBI (AFP) — Eritrea's long struggle for independence is over, but the struggle for peace and prosperity in an arid land devastated by war and famine is just beginning, diplomats and analysts said.

"Eritrea has already become a sovereign and independent state," said Issaias Afeworki, head of the provisional government formed two years ago after the capital Asmara fell to guerrillas of his Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF).

Speaking after the announcement Tuesday that more than 99 per cent of voters in last weekend's referendum on secession from Ethiopia had cast their ballots for independence, Mr. Issaias said: "I praise the Eritreans who have sacrificed their children to realize this democratic experience."

Mr. Issaias, 48, who looks wet

to become independent Eritrea's first president, quit university in Addis Ababa to join the guerrilla movement for independence in 1966, four years after Ethiopia invaded Eritrea in 1962.

Despite his Marxist beginnings, Mr. Issaias is seen as a forward-looking pragmatist.

He has established close relations with Israel, despite the Jewish state's support for the regime of ousted Ethiopian dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam, who once declared that he wanted to exterminate Eritreans and give Ethiopians their land.

"If we pay attention to all the things foreign powers have done to us in the past, we will never have any friends," Mr. Issaias said last week.

Eritrea's split with Ethiopia is viewed as the result of a deal struck by Mr. Issaias and Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi

when both were guerrilla leaders fighting Colonel Mengistu.

After the referendum vote was announced, Mr. Issaias held talks with Ethiopian Information Minister Negasso Gidada, who said the referendum had been free and fair and the outcome would be an opportunity for the two countries to enhance their relations.

Eritrea's Economics Secretary Haile Woldense said Eritrea had not yet decided whether to abandon the Ethiopian birr in favour of its own currency. But sources close to the government said Eritrea was likely to retain the birr.

Mr. Issaias says he wants to integrate the economies of Ethiopia and Eritrea, and even form a wider economic cooperation zone including other Horn of Africa countries.

But the effort to rebuild Eritrea will be enormous.

## Cypriot gunboat fires on Turkish ship; two wounded

NICOSIA (R) — A Greek Cypriot gunboat fired at a Turkish freighter in the Mediterranean Wednesday, wounding the captain and a seaman.

Rauf Demktash, leader of the Turkish Cypriot state in the northern third of the island, said the 680-tonne coaster Alp-5 came under fire in international waters.

Cypriot government officials insisted the vessel was six miles off the southeast coast, inside the 12-mile territorial limit between the southern ports of Larnaca and Limassol. They also said it was unmarked, had no flag and refused to stop.

Cypriot Foreign Minister Alekos Michaelides told a parliamentary committee meeting: "We warned them for 20 minutes and fired warning shots. They did not stop so we were forced to shoot."

It was second major incident between the island's rival communities this month. A Greek Cypriot conscript was shot dead in the U.N.-controlled buffer zone in Nicosia on April 8.

The Turkish Cypriot Tak news agency said the ship's captain Hasan Guclu was grazed in the stomach by a bullet and seaman Hasan Kalkan was shot in the foot. A British military helicopter had taken off to fly them to hospital in the Turkish Cypriot sector of Nicosia.

Mr. Demktash, who learned of the incident during talks with U.N. Cyprus envoy Gustave Feissel, lodged an immediate protest with the United Nations.

"They (Greek Cypriots) have no right to stop a ship in international waters. We don't even know if they called a halt," Tak quoted Mr. Demktash as telling reporters in the Turkish Cypriot part of divided Nicosia.

"They could have boarded the ship for a search or forced it to a port instead of opening fire," said Mr. Demktash. "For them it is a pleasure to open fire when they see a Turkish flag."

Mr. Demktash and Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides are due to meet in New York on May 24 for U.N.-brokered talks to unite the island as a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation.

A Turkish Cypriot port official in Famagusta said the Istanbul-registered Alp-5 was cruising eight miles off the coast in international waters when it was accosted by the gunboat at 10.30 a.m. (0730 GMT).

He said the gunboat opened fire five minutes later when the ship did not stop.

Cypriot police said a police patrol boat fired the shots after it had followed the vessel for 30 minutes. It had made repeated calls on the coaster to identify itself and stop.

## U.S. troops end Somali tour before handover

Col. Peck said.

"The U.S. will have a ground quick reaction force of about 1,200 troops, and a further 2,200 troops aboard a ship off the Somalian coast to deter any people with designs of disrupting the U.N. mission," he said.

"In addition, there will be staffers retained in the logistics and administration divisions at the UNOSOM II headquarters."

The troops in Merca were part of a UNITAF coalition that peaked at around 33,000 soldiers who largely halted clan-based fighting and opened up food corridors to hundreds of thousands of starving people. At least 300,000 Somalis died in a 20-month war-induced famine.

U.S. military officials said that the U.N. troops would be equipped with a recently introduced pepper spray which U.S. forces have used to incapacitate aggressors for bandits while doing serious injury.

Col. Peck said that the so-called "quick reaction liquid" was made with cayenne pepper and had been successfully used by police departments in the United States.

"It is just that simple — liquid hot pepper," Col. Peck said.

"It involuntarily incapacitates anyone who dares disobey lawful orders to desist from certain criminal acts, or want to engage in warfare despite all warnings not to."

Cayenne pepper spray, as it is called, was first used in Mogadishu on March 22 on a Somali youth who tried to get onto a military jeep, despite the presence of armed troops.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Conference on Jerusalem opens in Athens

ATHENS (R) — Israelis and Palestinians met in Athens Tuesday for an informal discussion on their problems and the future of Jerusalem at a U.N.-sponsored conference. Billed as an "encounter," the meeting coincided with the resumption of Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington after a four-month suspension.

Greek Foreign Minister Mihalis Papantoniou said the Athens meeting had a "symbolic meaning beyond its substantial contribution to peace efforts" because it was the first time experts were discussing the existing and future status of Jerusalem. The team of Israeli politicians, academics and journalists included Moshe Dayan and Jerusalem city council member Moshe Avnir.

A Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) official, Sami Musallam, was among the Palestinian panelists. The two-day meeting, named "Jerusalem visions of reconciliation," is designed to bring together the two sides of the Middle East dispute to discuss confidence building measures.

### Two Australians charged with desertion in Somalia

CANBERRA (AFP) — Two Australian soldiers serving with the U.N. peacekeeping force in Somalia have been charged with desertion, the Defence Department said Wednesday. Private Dennis Whereat, 24, and Private Daniel Huckerby, 23, were formally charged by their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel David Hurley, Tuesday and will be court-martialed in mid-May. A spokeswoman said, if convicted, they face a maximum sentence under military law of five years in prison. Mr. Whereat and Mr. Huckerby are members of the First Battalion, which forms the core of the 900-strong Australian force in Somalia until May as part of multinational peacekeeping force.

The two soldiers allegedly went missing in the Kenyan port city of Mombasa on April 12 after a 48-hour rest and recreation break from Somalia. A full search was launched for the two, but after a week they called the Australian High Commission in the Kenyan capital Nairobi. The spokeswoman said that as the two soldiers had been formally charged, no further discussion of the case was permitted by law.

### Indictments sought in Iraqi 'supergun' case

TERNI, Italy (AP) — Prosecutors Tuesday asked for the indictment of seven people on illegal arms trafficking charges for allegedly trying to supply Iraq with parts for a "supergun," a news agency reported. The allegations stem from the seizure of nearly 100 steel parts in Naples in May 1990. Iraq contended the parts were destined for petrochemical projects, but authorities suspect they were to be used in the construction of a giant cannon able to fire shells hundreds of kilometres. Similar seizures were made across Europe during the period. Two of the suspects were Iraqis attached to the Iraqi embassy, the ANSA news agency said.

Charges also were sought against two Britons who represented a company suspected of being a front to acquire the parts, ANSA said. Most of the parts had been made in a foundry in the Umbrian city in central Italy owned by the state industrial conglomerate IRI. Two of the suspects are Italians who worked at the foundry, and another was an Italian consultant who allegedly helped coordinate the project, ANSA said.

DEPARTURES  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

21:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
21:10	Rome (RJ)
17:45	Damascus (A2Z)
17:00	Dubai (EM)
21:00	Cairo (MS)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple	700 / 700
Banana	680 / 680
Banana (Milkman)	620 / 620
Carrot	320 / 320
Cauliflower	200 / 200
Cucumber (large)	120 / 120
Cucumber (small)	200 / 200
Eggplant	250 / 250
Garlic	280 / 280
Grapefruit	240 / 240
Lemon	650 / 650
Marrow (large)	500 / 500
Marrow (small)	170 / 170
Mint	80 / 80
Onion (dry)	150 / 150
Onion (green)	300 / 300
Orange	200 / 200
Peach (hot)	340 / 340
Pepper (hot)	150 / 150
Pepper (sweet)	200 / 200
Potato	180 / 180
Tomato	180 / 180
Spinach	320 / 320

### ARRIVALS

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

# Home News



Deputy Premier and Minister of Education Thouran Al Hindawi delivers an address on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to the opening session of the Jordanian Chemical Society's first conference (Petra photo)

## Jordan on new science threshold — Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday said Jordan now stands at a new threshold leading towards the building of a national foundation of science and technology and raising the standard and quality of scientific research to attain a higher level of socio-economic development.

Modern civilisation and progress are dependent on scientific and technological progress and it is no secret that advanced nations attained their present level of progress as a result of a cultural and scientific renaissance, said Prince Hassan in an address to the opening of the Jordanian Chemical Society's (JCS) first conference in Amman.

It is not a matter that there is an urgent need for the creation of new channels to transfer knowledge within the Arab Nation and Jordan since we still suffer from lack of coordination among our institutions and from dual tasks and wasted efforts, noted the Crown Prince in his address delivered on his behalf by Deputy Premier and Minister of Education Thouran Al Hindawi.

If Jordan is to confront development challenges, he said, it must build up and recruit capable competent scientists and talented persons.

Prince Hassan said human and natural resources blended with research conducted by universities and scientific research centres should serve the purpose of scientific research and be continued at the university level.

JCS President Mohammad Halaiqa addressed the opening session noting that chemical industries in Jordan account for more than 70 per cent of the total industrial sector, and 60 per cent of Jordan's exports are related to or based on chemistry.

Referring to the JCS's activities, Dr. Halaiqa said that the society was closely cooperating with the Ministry of Education in terms of preparing a school chemistry curriculum and has been active in organising exhibitions in various governorates and training courses for chemists.

The participants in the two-day meeting are expected to review 22 working papers.

The effects of insecticides on mothers' milk and the utilisation of chemical substances in the production of medicines are among the topics to be discussed.

The Ministry of Education and the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST) assisted the JCS in organising the conference.

## The Italian Ambassador Graduated Italian Language Centre's Students



AMMAN — On the Italian national day H.E. the Italian Ambassador Dr. Romualdo Bettini graduated on Sunday the Italian Language Centre's students during a reception which was held at the Amman Marriott Hotel on the occasion of the Centre's second anniversary.

His Excellency thanked all the students and congratulated the President Mr. Samir Al-Corom for the unique cultural achievement and emphasised to enhance the centre's future programmes in Jordan.

His Excellency also made sure promises to offer more scholarships in different specialisations of distinguished students of the Italian Centre together with Jordanian universities.

The centre's president also confirmed in his speech that he will use all the possibilities for increasing the Centre's methods and developing the scientific ways of teaching the Italian language.

Certificates were later given to the Centre's graduates and gifts were offered to Mr. Scamolla, Manager of Alitalia in Jordan and to the Centre's first student Mrs. Abeer Odeh.

On this occasion the Italian Centre's President and Dott. SSA Grazia Maestucci also offered a memorial gift to his excellency.

The celebration was attended by a number of the Italian Embassy staff in the presence of the Italian Cultural Attaché Prof. Emanuele Minardi and many intellectual and economic interested individuals in Jordan, Mr. Abdul-Hamid Shoman/Arab Bank, Mr. Asaad Abdellah Shoman Foundation, Dr. Bassam Abu-Ghazaleh/President of Applied Sciences University, and a number of the Italian community in Jordan.

## Public debate sparks over election law

By Sausan Ghosheh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The election law was severely attacked by participants and speakers alike at a lecture at the Arab Forum Tuesday.

The critics pointed to what they saw as multiple gaps that reflect the injustices of the law.

Head of the United Arab Democratic Party Anis Mouasher, a speaker at the lecture, said "a just election law is one that ensures the best representation of the citizens taking into consideration the particularities of the Jordanian society."

He emphasised the need to develop a new law that benefits the whole society, not one sect, party or representative.

The election law, Mr. Mouasher said, should redive the districts to equate the number of voters in each district and thus, the number of votes for each voter.

He presented two options, which he said satisfy the above requirements.

The first option, Mr. Mouasher maintained, is to reorganise the election districts so that each district has only one representative. Although this option eases the election process and the communication between the voter and his/her representative, it also encourages members of Parliament to focus their interests on their particular districts at the expense of the national interest, he said.

But, Mr. Mouasher stated that redividing the district should not be at the expense of the particularities present in the Jordanian society, such as minorities, the refugee camps and remote areas.

He believes that several seats should be temporarily allocated for minorities in Jordan until citizens reach a level of awareness that guarantees they will elect representatives despite their origins and religion.

In addition, a significant number of seats in parliament should be allocated to representatives from remote areas to establish

the others the right to only choose one."

In addition, he suggested amending the law to require that each elected representative receives a minimum 50 per cent of the votes, in order to guarantee the success of the political line that is most popular.

But, Mr. Mouasher stated that redividing the district should not be at the expense of the particularities present in the Jordanian society, such as minorities, the refugee camps and remote areas.

House Deputy Mohammad Abu Fares, also a speaker at the lecture, offered amendments to what he perceived as "gaps in the election law."

The first, he said requires lowering the voting age to eighteen the age at which a person is deemed responsible before the law. "The King is able to assume power at the age of eighteen, so why should people not be able to vote at this age?" Mr. Abu Fares said.

The second is to allow the politicisation of the Armed Forces and the security forces, because, according to Mr. Abu Fares, they have the right to participate in the decision-making process.

Moderator Taher Hikmat said the politicisation of the Armed Forces may lead either to instability or to tyranny.

Another attendee agreed that there are dangers in allowing the armed and security forces into political parties, but insisted that they should have the right to vote.

Mr. Abu Fares spoke against allocating a number of seats in parliament for women, a matter that disturbed the women present at the lecture.

He said women are not discriminated against in society. "They need to develop themselves... the law should not force people to vote for unqualified women,"

Mr. Abu Fares maintained.

They deputy also disagreed with allocating seats in parliament for minorities, describing it as "discriminatory and unjust."

Mr. Abu Fares, a member of the Islamic Action Front, said the present election districts reinforce the tribalism that is present in society.

The division of the districts, he added, was "moody, and not based on scientific methods."

But, Mr. Abu Fares maintained that the election law should not be altered while the parliament is in recess, and if it is changed "we could say that the intention of the executive government is insincere."

Member of Parliament Hussein Mjalli argued the current law is fair because it took into consideration the geographical areas, which differ in interests, the level of development and social groupings.

These factors, he maintained, are more important than having districts of similar size populations.

During the discussion period, attendees questioned if the parliament is the appropriate authority to issue the election law, and will the stronger forces in parliament shape the law according to their own interests.

An attendee said the election law is in favour of the Islamists. "In Irbid," he maintained, "the Islamists received 10 per cent of the votes, but secured 50 per cent of the seats."

He added that this law is "unjust and came as a result of the government to change this policy of oppression and to instate a just law that is fair to all political parties and movements in this society."

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Fragments: Weavings and Works on Paper" by Kevin A. Bluch at the American Centre.
- ★ Save the Children Designer Showcase: Exhibition of rugs, quilts, cushions, wallhangings, picture frames, lamp shades, leather handbags, canvas tote bags, natural olive oil soap, collector's dolls, food, embroidered fashionwear, baskets and seating; all manufactured by the Bani Hamida and the Jordan River Designs projects. The exhibition is at a new building next to the Business Bank, between Mukhabarat Bridge and the Prime Ministry (4th Circle), Queen Noor Street.
- ★ Art exhibition by Margaret Tadros at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Dr. Laila Bustami at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of sculptures by Syrian artist Akham Abdul Hameed at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Yousef Abdelle at Al Balka's Gallery, Al Fuheis city.

### FILM

- ★ Feature film entitled "Wait Until Dark" at the American Centre at 5 p.m. (1967, 108 min.).

## Under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al-Hussein



JORDAN RIVER

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.

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## Missing the forest because of a tree?

AS ENCOURAGING as the imminent return of old Palestinian expellees to the West Bank is, it must not serve to divert attention from the plight of the most recent Palestinian deportees and other grave human rights violations committed by Israel. Otherwise, there could be cause to believe that the latest "gesture" by the Israeli government is only a ploy to forge and bypass the four hundred Palestinians that Israel banished to South Lebanon last year. Of course we would like to see the early repatriation of all Palestinians who were arbitrarily forced out of their homeland throughout the past quarter of a century.

Some of the Palestinian personalities affected by the earlier Israeli deportation schemes are well-known Palestinian leaders who can be expected to play not only a leadership role in the West Bank and Gaza Strip but add a moderating influence as well. After the dispersion of many Palestinian leaders, there developed a leadership vacuum in the occupied Palestinian territories. The return of old and familiar faces to the scene could very well help support the peace process.

But all such worthy causes and objectives must not be at the expense of the newest batch of exiled Palestinians, on whose return there exists a specific United Nations Security Council resolution. Not attending to the needs and agonies of the Palestinians still stranded in no-man's-land may result in driving a deeper wedge between the Palestinians themselves, something that the peace process can ill-afford. The Palestinian constituency in support of the ongoing peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians needs to be further strengthened. There is plenty of room to win over new converts to peace and the best way to accomplish this goal is to facilitate the return of a wider spectrum of expelled Palestinians. Given the delicate period through which peace efforts are going, all efforts must be exerted to consolidate and unify Palestinian ranks in support of the search for a permanent and just settlement. The divide-and-rule policy is self-defeating in the long run and the sooner the Palestinian factions are united in their collective quest for a solution to their problem, the better.

If Israel is truly awaiting goodwill gestures or confidence-building measures, it must first dramatically improve its human rights record in the occupied territories. Part and parcel of this objective is to lift the state of siege against the West Bank and Gaza Strip. For how else can the people of Palestine be expected to support wholeheartedly the quest for peace.

Time is ripe to cultivate a more favourable climate between the Palestinians and the Israelis, and the first step in this direction lies in ameliorating the living conditions of the people under occupation in a meaningful way. No doubt in due course, the Palestinians would respond in-kind to any real Israeli confidence-building measures. Since, however, Israel is the party that occupied, and the oppressed the Palestinians, it is only natural that the first step be taken by its government to ease the situation and make it possible to attain peace. Stopping short of other and bigger goodwill steps, the return of old Palestinian expellees will never be enough to generate the kind of Palestinian reaction that we all seek and need.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

WITH the commencement of the ninth round of peace negotiations in Washington, the Arabs look forward to the attainment of genuine peace and hope that the Americans and the Israelis are now convinced of the importance of peace, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Wednesday. The paper added that by going to the peace talks in Washington the Arabs have proved once again to the whole world their real desire to reach a lasting settlement to the conflict that had plagued the Middle East for so long, said the paper. It is hoped that the U.S. and Israel are by now convinced that only a just and durable settlement based on justice and U.N. resolutions, can bring about the aspired peace, continued the daily. The paper recalled that His Majesty King Hussein has been demanding peace and justice for the peoples of this region. In his latest television interview, with the BBC television, King Hussein attached great hopes to the new round of negotiations as a means to end the tragedies and the ordeal of the Palestinian people and to launch a new era of peaceful coexistence among the nations of this area, said the paper. The paper stressed that any failure to attain peace was bound to open the door wide for further acts of violence and an indefinite extension to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

COMMENTING ON the ongoing rumours that the government plans to introduce new sales tax law, columnist Taher Al Uwdan said that it is clear that the government is failing under pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to implement the economic restructuring programme in a bid to reform the national economy. It is true that the programme was helping the reform process, but it is unacceptable that the government should ignore the public demand that no such tax be imposed under the present circumstances in which the Jordanian people are facing heavy burdens, said the writer. Seldom do two people meet without touching on the subject of the sales tax, which would further increase burdens on the public, he said. It should be said that the government can, if necessary, introduce such a law according to the Constitution, but no such move seems to be urgent and necessary at the moment simply because the present government, which had earlier sent the draft law to Parliament, changed its mind about it later and withdrew the draft, the writer pointed out. He said that should the government go ahead with the move now, the main topic of the election campaign in November would focus on the economic situation and the burdens imposed on the public in compliance with the IMF instructions. The writer said that the government's ability to withstand the pressure should reflect the extent of the Jordanian people's endurance.

## Democracy alone can propel the Muslim World forward, give it legitimate power

By G.H. Jansen

An astonishing statistic to begin with: 80 to 85 per cent of all the world's refugees are Muslims. That is a U.N. figure and may be an underestimate.

That of all the world's major faiths — Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism — the adherents of Islam should be so very disproportionately forced into homelessness can only mean, in the main, one of two things: Islam is disproportionately objectionable to governments and people of other faiths and/or Muslims cannot be protected by the 50-odd Islamic countries grouped in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) which recently met in Karachi.

Which raises the question: Is the Muslim or Islamic "world" a paper tiger, fearsome to look at but without power or even influence?

The list of countries where Muslims are under attack, which often but not always results in their becoming refugees, is a long one: Bosnia, the Philippines (where the Moro people are up in arms), Burma (the Rohingyas of Arakan driven into Bangladesh), India (the refugee exodus after recent happenings in Bombay), Tajikistan (from where refugees from a communist regime are fleeing into Afghanistan), Azerbaijan (from Armenians), Abkhazia (from the Georgians) and, of course, the original post-war refugee problem, the Palestinian people displaced by the Zionist Israelis.

One probable reason why Muslims are picked-on is that, unlike the other major faiths, Islam is comparatively much younger and more dynamic and for that reason it can be seen as a potential threat. One manifestation of this dynamism is that there is within the Umma, the worldwide Muslim community, a strong feeling of interest and sympathy — to put it no higher — "brotherhood"

being too strong a word. Because this is felt by Muslims and is known by them to be there, manifested only verbally at such things as the OIC meetings, it leads to statements about the "Muslim World" or "Muslim brotherhood" which sound threatening to others, so threatening that it could lead to preemptive action against the "Muslim menace." This sort of action-reaction paradigm is especially clear in India. They are either militarily pro-

politically and economically, and these are small and marginal, like maverick Libya or Iraq or Iran and Jordan, still being punished for trying to be independent, and remote Yemen. But all the large, leading Muslim "powers" are less than independent, such as Indonesia, Pakistan, Egypt, Nigeria. These and the host of other Muslim states are in one way or other tied to the chariot wheels of the one world power, the U.S. They are either militarily pro-

region, the core of the Islamic World, which, in this respect, only too readily imitates the bad example of the Arabs.

Here there is another paradox. Because at one level, the level of the Muslim people, there is the strong undercurrent, the centrepiece of the Umma's feeling, but above it, at the governmental level there are the centrifugal currents and cross-currents of the policies of the regimes. This contradiction provides the Muslim fundamentalists with one of their biggest opportunities because they appeal over the heads of the regimes to the Umma's feeling of the people. And the active agents of that anti-regime impulse are the "terrorist Afghans," the guerrillas left over from the campaign in Afghanistan who now want to go on waging "jihad" not just against Serbs or Croats or Armenians but also against Muslim governments as in Egypt or Algeria.

It is bitterly ironic that one of the items on the agenda of the Karachi conference was the fight against "terrorism," meaning the Muslim activists, as the "Afghans." Ironic, but understandable and even inevitable, for the OIC is a gathering of governments.

The OIC, for instance, was founded and is now led and financed by Saudi Arabia whose monarch calls himself "the protector of the Holy Shrines" (of Mecca and Medina) but that "leadership" ensures that the OIC has never given a real lead and certainly not on any issue that might be contrary to the interest or policies of the U.S.

Besides this lack of freedom and independence of action within the Islamic World, a lack mainly due to the absence of the will to be free and independent on the part of the regimes, one other source of weakness is the chronic divisiveness of the Muslim regimes.

In the Muslim World, there is only a handful of countries that can be called fully independent, selected by the U.S. (the state by the U.S. armed forces and the rulers by the CIA) or are in need of U.S. financial assistance or in need of U.S. markets or technical assistance.

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# Weekender

April 29, 1993

Published Every Thursday

## Toys for Arab children

**Mariam M. Shahin**  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Culture and tradition have always been main themes of education and upbringing in the Arab World. One of the main instruments missing to teach children about their culture beyond the word of the Koran and a thousand and one nights has been toys. Educational toys.

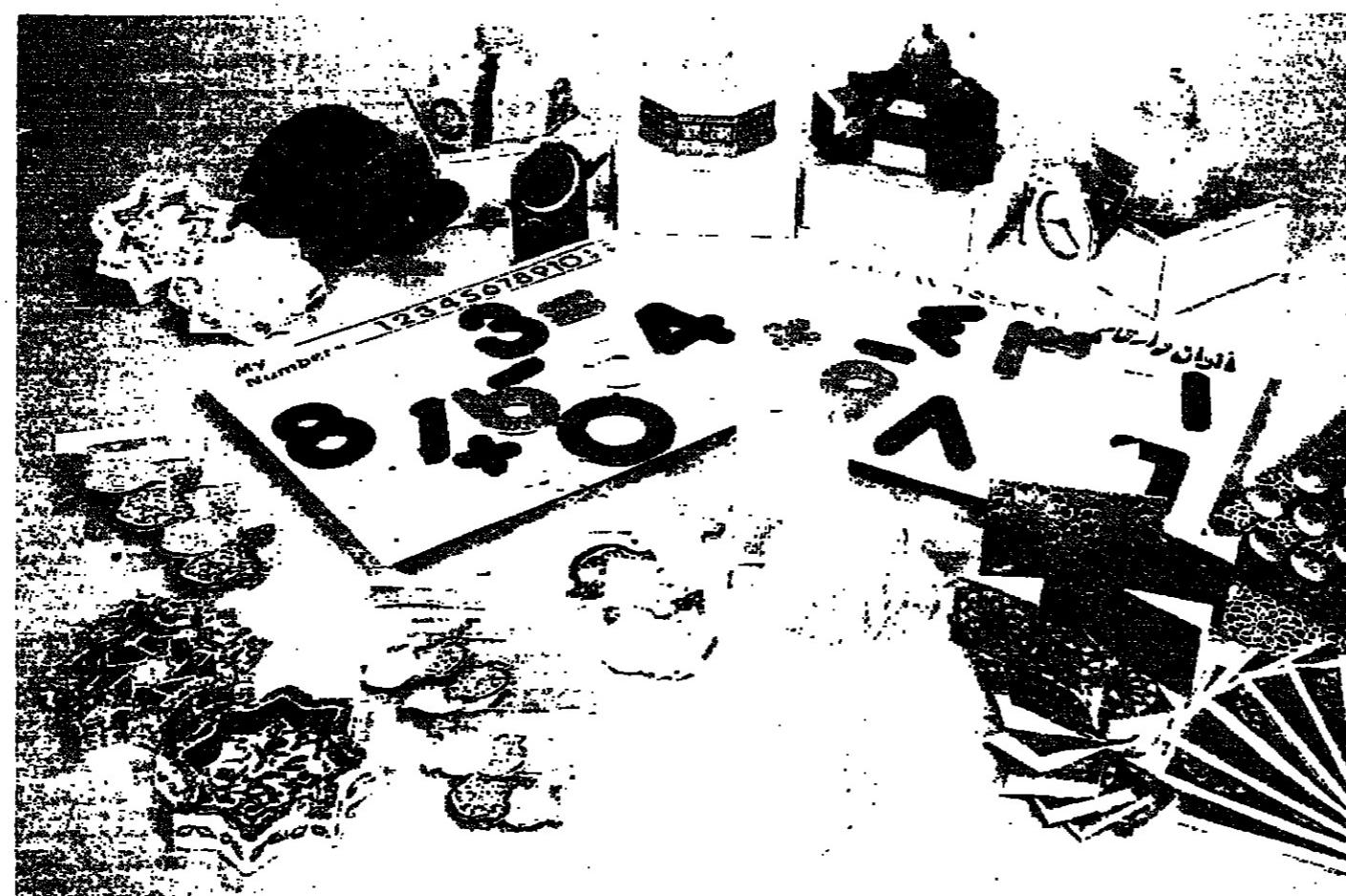
Toys which build arches, building blocks which create arabesque designs, mosques and dolls which look like Arabs and not Scandinavians.

Puzzles which when complete draw a map of the Arab World or Arab landscapes and figures.

The brilliant toy-makers who have immortalised Western fairy tales, traditions and culture could not possibly have done the same for the Arab culture — but now an Arab designer has.

His name is Hassan Bakheit. He was born in Syria in 1956. His parents were Palestinian refugees from Jaffa. Nationless, they spent most of their life in the now destroyed Sabra refugee camp in Beirut. Today Mr. Bakheit has dual nationality, both Jordanian and British. His main clients are educated Saudi families and the expatriate Arab and Muslim communities of Western Europe and the Americas.

His production base is Kent. Alphabet flash cards, tee shirts, arabesque mugs, greeting cards with Arab and Islamic designs, jigsaw puzzles and of course his very



Some of Hassan Bakheit's creations

first toy-design — the Dome Of The Rock in the form of building blocks.

A thirty-three unit construction toy, the Dome Of The Rock building block toy won Mr. Bakheit his first prize as a toy designer some four years ago. From among 138 entries from 28 countries the Forum on Culture and Design in Ulm, Germany chose the Dome Of The Rock as the most original and

later on, a job designing

culturally distinct toy.

But the Ulm prize was not the first for Mr. Bakheit. In 1980 he won the first prize at a Royal Society of Art Competition for the design of medical equipment. His success led to the first scholarship given to a "non-resident" design student by the British Royal Society of Art.

"I saw children in Egyptian kindergarten classes playing with the British toy policemen and Mickey Mouse. I knew these children would never see London or America and even if they did — there was no toy which reflected in any way or form to

the Palestine Hospital in Cairo led to Mr. Bakheit's awareness of the need for culturally relevant toys for Arab children.

His art design studies at the Chelsey School of Art gave him the background in the refined aspects of design which he did not learn in Lebanon when studying industrial design.

Several attempts by Mr. Bakheit to produce his educational material in the Mid-

dle or Far East have thus far failed. But the market for his goods continues to grow especially in the West.

Oxfam, the British charity organisation bought over a 1,000 units of his Islamic designs and has placed an order for more. "I don't sell quantity. I sell quality. If I had a greater market the prices would go down," says Mr. Bakheit of his toys which sell at an average of JD 8 a unit.

He hopes to collaborate with Arab partners and build a toy factory somewhere in the Arab World. Until then, Mr. Bakheit is planning to continue marketing his toys in the Arab World as well as abroad. "The largest market for Arab toys is still in Europe and America. Maybe someday they will also sell here," he says.

Mr. Bakheit was the senior Arab advisor to the designers of the Saudi Arabian pavilion at the Seville Expo, although his Saudi clientele reduced their orders for his toys significantly during and after the Gulf war because of Mr. Bakheit's Jordanian/Palestinian heritage.

"Relations and understanding between the Arabs will pick up again," he says. "But it will take time."

As designer and producer, Mr. Bakheit is always busy travelling as well as designing. His products have just been introduced to the Jordanian market and he hopes to make Jordan his Middle Eastern base someday. "I would love to see Arab kids play with toys that make them proud to be Arabs," he says.

## Diary

In Jordan's democratic atmosphere, the number of newspapers is continuously growing. Weeklies, tabloids in particular, are springing up like weeds on the banks of a river. In this week's Diary, we select news and views that recently appeared in those tabloids just to show how well, or badly, openness and democracy are working. Diary-style comment on these items is withheld, however, except in extreme cases and where factual errors have to be corrected. Enjoy, above all, the humour in what you are about to read.

AKHBAR AL USBOO WEEKLY allowed former president of the Jordan Press Association (JPA) Rakan Al Majali, who has been levelling ferocious and personal criticism at present and former members of government since he was fired from his last job as editor-in-chief of Al Ra'i's Arabic daily in 1989, to turn his guns on hitherto forbidden territory. Writing his back page column in this week's issue, Majali charged that the Royal Court, under its current chief whom he did not identify by name, has become as ineffective as government itself.

In the past, "Majali wrote, "the august Royal Court was a major institution of state that was not prescribed as such in the constitution or the law. It was as King Hussein always said, the house of all Jordanians and Arabs, the institution that creates balance in the country and represents a refuge for all ordinary citizens. He added, "(the Royal Court) was the last resort for patriotic citizens through which they conveyed their opinions to the leader and it was (the institution) that consolidated the concept embodying Jordan as one loving family despite all symbols of selfishness, hatred and deviation."

Majali went on to say: "There was many a time in Jordan's history when government's performance was inefficient and tyrannical. But every time the government in office was absent the Royal Court filled the vacuum." Now, however, "the situation has dramatically changed," he opined. "I don't believe that in its history Jordan has ever witnessed a period like that of today when both the government and the Royal Court are absent," said Majali, who has been out of a job in the mainstream press since the government of Mudar Badran reversed the decision of former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and brought back to Jordanian dailies the editors that Mr. Rifai had earlier replaced under martial law.

"Some do not distinguish anymore between the Royal Deewan (Court) and Deewan (book) of poetry," Majali continued in an obvious reference to the Royal Court chief, who was a professor of Arabic literature before becoming minister of culture in Mr. Badran's government in 1989 and went on to become chief of the Royal Court in 1992. "There is a difference between the Mutanabbi (the famous Arab poet) who created a spirit for the nation and those who just know his poetry." Majali went on to say in his unprecedent and blistering attack. "The difference is that between the overflow of the spirit of glory and pride which memorise but have no talent, no experience and do not reflect the dignity of the word and its honour." There is a lot to say in this regard, Majali continued. "But we have to remember one thing," he concluded: "Relief (from this situation) will come from the fact that our people continue to believe in their leader who has led them through all phases to the shores of love and security with his vivid farsightedness and divine light that guides his way. The King is capable of creating a new dawn with the birth of every day in which the sun is born."

\* \* \* \* \*

AL MUSTAQBAL WEEKLY, the mouthpiece of the centrist party Al Mustaqbal, claimed in a report in its latest issue that Al Ra'i daily will have a new chief editor within two weeks. Quoting unidentified sources (a common practice among the newcomers to Jordan's press), Al Mustaqbal said that the board of directors of the Jordan Press Foundation, which owns both Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, on Saturday discussed the resignation of Mahmoud Al Kayed who, again according to unidentified sources, will hold a cabinet position in the next government. Al Mustaqbal said Kayed asked the board to give him two weeks before it named his successor. The report named Jordan Press Association President Suleiman Al Qudia (now Al Ra'i's managing editor), former editor of Al Daurat Suleiman Al Tarawneh and another Al Ra'i editor, Ahmad Salameh, as strong candidates for Kayed's post.

Because there is a factual error that has to be corrected, the Diary feels obliged to say that the board did not discuss the resignation of Kayed in its meeting Saturday. While it may well be true that Kayed has to act according to the new press and publications law, which comes into effect on May 17, and resign either as chairman of the board or as editor of Al Ra'i, it is also a fact of life that he had just fired Al Mustaqbal editor Abdul Rahman Al Abboushi from his job as a reporter at Al Ra'i because he had decided that Abboushi also could not combine his two jobs for Al Ra'i and Al Mustaqbal.

\* \* \* \* \*

AL MUSTAQBAL, also in this week's issue, permitted Muslim Brotherhood Deputy Abdul Manem Abu Zant to defend himself against "rumours" flying around town about him. The paper quoted rumours that the Islamist deputy, who captured people's attention as a fiery speaker in the 1989 elections, has fallen out of grace with Yasser Arafat for severely criticising the peace process and thus lost a JD 40,000 annual grant that, according to the rumours, he annually received from the PLO chairman. In a statement he made to the weekly, Sheikh Abu Zant denied that he had ever received such financial support from the PLO though he used the chance to reaffirm his rejection of the peace talks. "I don't know Arafat personally," he was quoted as saying. "I met him only once at an official meeting in Amman and during that encounter I advised him to worship God and to be wary of the Americans and the Jews who had been cooking up things for him. I told him not to believe the combined Jewish-American lie." How "could I tell him these things if I were receiving money from him?" the sheikh went on to ask. Abu Zant cited what he called his "humble house and furniture" as evidence that he receives support only from God. "I am a man who is ridden with debt," he continued. "So how could that be the case if I am receiving thousands of dinars from Arafat and others?"

\* \* \* \* \*

SHIHAN, the weekly tabloid with the largest circulation in the country, this week quoted deputy Ahmad Oweidi Al Abbadi (independent, 5th District) as saying that he might sue the Traffic Department for harassing him in an attempt to tarnish his reputation. Shihani said that Abbadi sent a "strongly worded" complaint to the prime minister and the director general of the Public Security Department about the treatment he had received at the hands of a police officer in his constituency, Bayader Wadi Al Seir. In the complaint, Shihani said, Abbadi offered the following account of the incident: A traffic policeman who recognised the deputy threatened to take him to the police station for violating traffic regulations by driving in the wrong lane. Politics, Abbadi told Shihani, were behind the episode. "I accuse political and electoral circles of perpetrating this act to tarnish my reputation in my own constituency. I consider this an attempt to settle old and future political and electoral scores."

## BOOK REVIEW

### Men of the sword

**The autobiography: It Doesn't Take A Hero**  
By Norman Schwarzkopf (with P. Petre)  
Bantam Press, London 1992, £17.99

**Storm Command: A Personal Account Of The Gulf War**  
By Peter De La Billiere  
Harper Collins, London 1992, £18

After the war came the autobiographies of the victors: almost as if it were a prerogative of victory. Certainly the two personalities revealed here had no doubt whatsoever of the justice of their cause or of the outcome. General De La Billiere writes of his amazement that the Iraqi army should have passively awaited the onslaught planned for it and of his fear for the future had Iraq withdrawn before mid-January 1991. General Schwarzkopf, too, underlines the fears within the U.S. command structure and amongst the politicians of the "nightmare scenario" becoming fact.

At the same time, however, apart from the minutiae of the military arena — which are, at times, quite fascinating — neither book adds significantly to what we already know of the background and run-up to the conflict in the Gulf in 1991, or to the way in which it evolved. Neither commander shows very much interest in the motives or the nature of their adversary, nor does either show much concern over what happened to Iraqis during and after the conflict, except to blame the Iraqi president himself for what happened.

Both commanders also express their own, often very different, resentments of civilian attitudes in Europe and the U.S. General De La Billiere is continuously exasperated by the timidity and cheese-paring attitude of government, although he is unstinting in his praise of Tom King as defence secretary; General Schwarzkopf was irritated by

the unwillingness of Congress to support President George Bush before the war and of the media's distaste for the brutality of ground warfare and particularly for the devastation wrought on Highway Six out of Kuwait City.

However, what is striking in both the U.S. and British command structures was the military's acceptance and compliance with civilian political direction. Schwarzkopf, for example, agreed with the White House that the war should have ended when it did, despite the fact that the regime has continued in power. De La Billiere, for his part, saw one of the main duties to be to minimise the duration of the British presence in the Middle East, mainly because of budgetary and manpower constraints.

Both commanders were similar in another respect too: Both had had considerable experience of the Middle East before. De La Billiere had served in Suez, Oman, Aden and Sudan over an eight-year period when a junior officer and spoke colloquial Arabic. Schwarzkopf, who had not had professional experience of the region, at least until he attained senior rank, had spent several years in Iran when young, where his father was training the Shah's police. While these experiences may have made both commanders more acceptable to their governmental and military counterparts amongst their Middle Eastern allies, they did not, ironically enough, seem to make them any more sensitive about the wider implications of the enterprise they were engaged in.

So, if neither autobiography is particularly illuminating over the background and implications of the war against Iraq, do they have any other intrinsic interest for the general reader? Indeed, they do, although here the balance is tipped heavily in favour of Schwarzkopf. The reason is quite simple: De La Billiere has confined himself strictly to his subject and we learn little of the man and the environment that produced him. Schwarzkopf, on the other hand, has written a full biography. Fully half his book

is devoted to events before the Gulf War and, although it is an account of his personal experiences from boyhood on, it is also a detailed account of how an American patriot is formed.

There is no doubt that the general is a highly intelligent man. There is equally little doubt, however, that he was always primarily concerned with action, not with contemplation. Furthermore, he came from an intensely patriotic military household, in which the American vision was never questioned, and his sole ambition seems to have been to follow in his father's footsteps to West Point.

Yet, when he entered the service as a professional, just after the end of the Korean War, he found himself in an ill-equipped and poorly motivated army, in which his commitment seemed to have little place. His salvation and, ironically enough, the final destruction of his illusions, came with Vietnam, where he was an early volunteer and where his dynamism and leadership singled him out as an outstanding soldier. His promotions thereafter seem to have been effortless, but, had it not been for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, his opportunity for a senior command in battle would never have come about. Yet that was to prove to be the culmination of a military career which, in retrospect, seems to have been unconsciously designed for that very end.

It is therefore as a description of the personal evolution of the psychology of military command that Norman Schwarzkopf's autobiography reveals its intrinsic interest. And, indeed, the same is true, within a deliberately much more restricted timescale, of Peter De La Billiere's book. If, however, you are looking for insights as to why the war against Iraq was fought or what was meant to happen afterwards or why, indeed, it ever had to occur, you will not find them here — Middle East International.

George Joffe

## Easy as 1-2-3?

By Jean-Claude Elias

How many car drivers can claim to really understand what's in a engine or are able to fix it when it needs repair or maintenance? A very small minority certainly. This doesn't prevent the majority, the non-experts in automotive mechanics, to actually drive their car, make good use of it and even enjoy driving. When their vehicle is down however, they would rather contact the car workshop for repair.

A computer, like a car, is just another machine. One can use, for example, a word processing programme, without having to be an information technology expert. The problems appear when a lay person, facing a given technical difficulty with his or her PC (personal computer) decides to do without professional help.

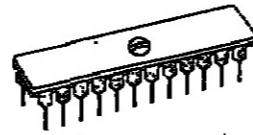
True, like in any field, not all lay people are equal. There are absolute beginners, amateurs, good amateurs, professional-amateurs, etc. But unless someone is fully professional, chances are that there will always be problems that take a real specialist to solve, someone who works everyday on computers. Illegal practice of medicine is punished by law. There should be laws forbidding amateurs from tampering with computers.

Users tend to believe that because a PC is small, relatively inexpensive and won't explode (for the picky, a monitor's tube could implode but not explode), there is no harm in trying to do the repair by themselves. Let's be clear: A computer can be out of order because of a hardware failure like the keyboard, disk, monitor, power... or a software failure like programmes and data erasure, corruption and so on. They are two distinct matters, though sometimes linked.

Most people will call the computer company for a hardware failure — electricity generally scares the amateurs — but will try anything they can think of to arrange a data-software problem. Unless the problem is minor, easy to solve and well explained in user's manuals, one had better refer to a trained specialist. Reputable computer distributors have software support people like they have hardware engineers.

The main risk in non-professional attempts, to solve

## chip talk



difficult software situations is mainly accidental deletion of important data or files from the disk. The other risk is to "freeze" the PC and render it completely out of order till the specialist arrives. A common mistake PC users do when trying to play the "computer doctor" is deleting or renaming a file named "COMMAND.COM" from the root directory of the hard disk. Without this file the PC can't even start to work. At best, the user would waste a lot of precious time instead of calling the qualified people first. Needless to say that the software specialists' work would be much simpler and easier if the user would call him before his or her repair attempts.

Some users should shelve their obsessive desire for being professionals and realise that being an amateur PC operator is not a shame at all. After all, to each his own profession. Knowing a PC in depth and being able to tackle all of the problems that can arise from using it is a difficult and a fulltime job. Software is becoming more and more complex and even experts have hard times keeping up with new developments.

Computer graduates study long and hard, like in any other technical field, to become what they are. All the training courses, the "summer camps" and even raw intelligence in the world won't replace sound academic studies and a master's experience. They will, at best, increase the users' computer awareness. Civil engineers, architects, lawyers and doctors have well established standards in their trades and no one tries to be an amateur doctor or architect. Shouldn't it be the same for information technology?

## JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, April 29

8:30 Coach

9:30 Quantum Leap

Sam leaps into time again to find himself in the year 1972 as an English literature teacher in a girls' school.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film "Drive Like Lightning"

Starring: Steven Baur and Cynthia Gibb

A young man, Charlie Webster, is assigned to deliver a stunt car to a speedway in Los Angeles for the famous stunt driver Boll Donner. The Webster family has a long history in the stunt driving trade, but Charlie has all but given up his dreams of that life. The dreams were shattered when his older brother, Billy, was crippled after a flaw in a stunt that Charlie designed.

On the road, Charlie picks up a young hitchhiker, Ginger, who is headed for Los Angeles with hopes of making it as a singer. Along the way, events conspire to prevent them from getting through with the truck and their only alternative is to drive Boll's prize car, "The Devil". Stunt after stunt occurs on the road as they are pursued by the police and Donner's henchmen for "stealing" Boll's prize possession.

Throughout the chaos, Charlie's and Ginger's relationship blooms. Despite

Ginger's doubts about herself and her relationship with Charlie, she finally decides to stick with him on the ride of his life and the final test to prove who really is the greatest stunt car driver.

Friday, April 20

8:30 Alf

Standing In the Shadow

Alf helps Jack in writing love letters to his girlfriend Laura.

9:10 E.N.G.

Suffer The Little Children

A series of suicide attempts take place in the old neighbourhood that Jake used to live in.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Wagner

Starring: Richard Burton — Vanessa Redgrave.

Wagner starts dreaming of returning to Germany.

Saturday, May 1

8:30 Super Bloopers

9:00 Perspective

A local talk show presented by Mureed Hamad.

9:30 Saturday Variety Show

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Crazy From The Heart

Sunday, May 2

8:30 Executive Stress

Robin turns out to be the sort of new writer Caroline is looking for. One of Robin's other talents however is making trouble, which he does in a big way.

9:10 The Good Guys

Old School Ties

Morning in the flat, and MacFadyean's girlfriend, Lizzie, and Lofthouse meet in the kitchen. Both are a little awkward. While the two lovers exchange badinage in the bedroom, Lofthouse fumes over a shocking newspaper picture of a badly mugged woman.

Nearby, at a house called Larchwood, Graham Croxley and his wife Valerie are going away for the night, leaving their 17-year-old son Stephen to study for his A levels. Barely have they left than a gang of school friends, led by Dominic, arrive on motorbikes and start taking drugs and messing about by the indoor swimming pool. At first Stephen protests he has work to do, but a desire to keep up with his friends combined with a contempt for his bullying father persuade him

to throw caution to the winds and join in. Sam, the Asian help, looks on helplessly.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Voltaire

Voltaire goes to live in Geneva. But he is continuously mistreated there.

Monday, May 3

8:30 The Powers That Be

Bradley Gets Fired

The senator decides to fire Bradley because of his affair

9:10 Petra

The Red Silence

The programme focuses on the Red City of Petra and its history.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Jordan Weekly

10:40 Street Justice

Friendly Fire

A policeman shoot an unarmed man and kills him, the man's mother tries to get revenge.

Tuesday, May 4

8:30 Beadles About

9:10 Forever Green

Jack and Harriett are offered a partnership in a lumber company with old friends Mike and Mary. But Jack and Harriett decide against it.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

Wednesday, May 5

8:30 Chance In A Million

Winning Streak

9:00 Spotlight

9:30 Voyager

10:00 News In English

10:20 Mini-Series

The Gravy Train Goes East



De Fort Boyard, a games show, broadcast every Sunday at JTV Channel 2

## The hunter and the bone

By E. Yaghi

It was obvious that the old timer hunted, but just what, was never quite clear, not even to himself. He had sought a variety of entities in his life. When young, he looked for adventure and wisdom; as he grew older, he explored the legend of the fountain of perpetual youth and the city of gold. He excavated archaeological sites and even searched for the mysteries of life entombed in the ancient pharaoh's pyramids in Egypt. He had come across few bits and pieces of gold but never anything enough to make him rich. And though he had been a part of exciting discoveries of antique civilisations, his meager reward never surpassed his accumulation of knowledge and experience.

And so here he was, brought by fate at the end of his years to a rocky canyon devoid of any evident human habitation, a place where crags, crevices and holes had been carved and shaped by the winds of time. It was early evening and the old hunter stretched out on the ground propping his back against a large rock while he watched his campfire roast a wild rabbit he had earlier caught.

The meat smelled good over the open fire and he was hungry. He rose, went over to his camping gear, took out an enamel teapot, filled it with water from a nearby brook and placed it on the outer embers of the dying fire. "Nothing like some tea with a good meal," the old man said to the canyon walls. "Just seems to hit the spot." He yawned and reached out with his arms into the endless space to ease the cramp in his muscles. "It's been a long way so after supper I guess I'll try to get some sleep. Tomorrow's another day and I'll worry about it when it comes."

After his simple meal, the hunter slowly drank his tea which he savoured as though it were the finest beverage he had ever tasted and then following a long silence, doused out the fire with some water and went to unroll his sleeping bag. He spread it on a clearing and with his jacket for a pillow, lay down to sleep. In a distance he could hear a coyote yelp, some pigeons coo and an owl hoot. He smelled the ashes of his campfire blend with the dryness of the arid air to mix with a scent of pine. The night seemed unusually black when he stared up at the foreboding sky. Only a few stars peered down at him from their guard of the celestial realm. All at once, the silence of the canyon surrounded him and almost crushed him. He wanted to scream to pierce the morbid stillness that threatened to crawl down his throat and suffocate him. He began to hum an old miner's tune in mock bravery and in his temporary solace said at last, "I have to get some sleep or else I'll have no strength left for a long tomorrow."

He dozed off into a fitful slumber interrupted at frequent intervals by bouts of awakening. When he did sleep, he dreamed of ghosts and monsters and of falling into a deep

eternal pit filled with a blazing inferno. And was that the satanic laughter of shrieking fiendish spirits who stoked the furnace of hell? Frequently he awoke crying out, "No, don't take me! Leave me alone!"

Beads of sweat ran off his forehead and soaked his jacket-pillow. He tossed and turned until finally he smelled the break of dawn. He opened his eyes. The air was cool and sweet. Small birds cheeped for food and dew clung like dainty ornaments on the desert poppies and thistles. The nightmare of the eve before seemed remote now and not so vivid. It was all just a figment of his imagination. "It's a hard thing for one to be alone. Solitude gets on a man's nerves. It is indeed unfortunate that I have no children to bear by name and none will cry for me when I die. What have I accomplished during my lifetime? I've searched high and low for so many things but never really found myself. Who am I? Where have I been and where am I going?"

There was no answer but the sound and smell of nature, his sole companion. He got up and headed for the brook, bent down on his knees and washed his face and hair in the cool crystal water still unpolluted by man. Feeling refreshed, he patted his face dry with a threadbare towel and set about gathering some dry wood to make his breakfast fire. As he scrounged about, he saw something white gleam in the early sunlight.

"What's this?" he asked himself as he scooped the earth with a piece of wood to uncover the object that had attracted his interest. "Why, it's a bone of a human and there is a tuft of yellow hair wrapped around it!" he exclaimed amazed.

The lock of dry hair was jagged and wire-like from the countless eons of ages that it had been buried in the ground. The old-timer held the bone closer for inspection. "How long have you been hidden here beneath the earth, unknown to humanity?" he questioned. "What is your secret and did your owner pass away alone uncelebrated in life as in death?"

The piece of past humanity crumbled slightly in his hand and the gnarled warped ancient golden wires scratched him forcing him to yell to the thing, "Tell me the horrors of your secrets!"

But the bone, still crumbling, remained silent and the only answer was that of the careless unconcerned canyon winds which blew against him.

Terrified, the old timer watched as the yellow tuft of hair twisted itself around his own knotted hand. He could not free himself from the haunted bone and he roared out in despair and terror. "Leave me alone! Get away from me! Let go!"

But the bone said nothing and continued to wrap itself snake-like around the hunter's appendage and then suddenly he knew. He knew it all. The bone he was handcuffed to was none other than his own.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaib

### HUMOROUS QUOTATIONS

Trouble

MISFORTUNES and twins never come singly.

MISFORTUNES come on wings and depart on foot.

IN trouble to be troubled is to have your trouble doubled.

BORROW trouble for yourself, if that's your nature, but don't lend it to your neighbours.

WHEN a man confronts catastrophe on the road, he looks in his purse — but a woman looks in her mirror.

WHEN you see a man in woe,

Walk right up and say "hullo".

Say "hullo" and "how d'ye do?"

"How's the world a usin' you?"

### LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

Absent.

Mahma kanat el-zuroof.

Fee sib'hitak.

Shukr ill'lah.

Ana ka'l'kan.

Indak mani?

Atakid zalek.

Ya il-khassara.

Mossh mohim.

El-amr matrook-lak.

Hawwim alak.

Inta mutta'sakid?

Rahmitak ya Rubb!

Miskeen.

Wah'wa kazalek.

### STRANGE BUT TRUE

THE WORD television means "to see at a distance." SEVENTY-TWO muscles are used in speaking one word.

SILK was discovered 2700 B.C.

&lt;p





# Pesticide DDT linked to fourfold increase in risk of breast cancer

By Paul Majendie  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Women with the highest exposure to the pesticide DDT had four times the breast cancer risk of women with the least exposure, researchers said Tuesday.

The study is one of the first to link the insecticide with breast cancer, although DDT has been known for decades to cause cancer in animals. Some scientists said the study could have important implications for the prevention of breast cancer worldwide.

While the findings do not constitute proof that DDT causes breast cancer, they could, if confirmed, provide a possible explanation for the puzzling rise in breast cancer in recent decades in the United States.

"Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, and a lot of the risks is unexplained," said the study's principal author, Mary S. Wolff, a chemist at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

The study was being published recently in the Journal

of the National Cancer Institute.

The rise in breast cancer followed the increase in the use of DDT, suggesting that the two might be linked, Dr. Wolff said.

Even though DDT was phased out in 1972 in the United States, "we're all exposed to it through the diet," she said. Before 1972, DDT was common in meat and dairy products, and because it is stored in the body for decades most Americans still carry DDT residues, she said.

Children are exposed to it

through their mothers' milk, Dr. Wolff said. And DDT is still widely used in other countries, including Mexico, she said.

Dr. Wolff and her colleagues measured levels of a DDT-breakdown product in the blood of 58 women with breast cancer and 171 women without breast cancer. Women with levels in the top 10 per cent had four times the breast cancer risk of women in the bottom 10 per cent.

The researchers also looked for a link between PCBs and breast cancer, but failed to

find one. PCBs, or Polychlorinated Biphenyls, are hazardous liquids used as insulators in electrical transformers. Like DDT, they are widespread environmental contaminants.

In a commentary on the

study, David J. Hunter and

Kari T. Kelsey of the Harvard

School of Public Health in

Boston said: "Because the

findings...may have extra-

ordinary global implications

for the prevention of breast

cancer, their study should serve as a wake-up call for further urgent research."

"The study is the best-

designed study yet conducted to investigate the link between toxic chemicals and a major disease in women," said Devere Lee Davis of the National Research Council, an authority on environmental causes of

Cancer Institute.

"We're behind in our

understanding of environ-

mental causes of breast can-

cer" compared to what's

known about hormonal

causes of breast cancer, Mr.

Siever said.

Ms. Davis said evidence is growing that chlorine-based chemicals, such as DDT, may

pose serious risks to human health.

She noted an article in the current issue of *Chemical and Engineering News*, published by the American Chemical Society, which reports growing concern that the chemicals "are causing cancer in adults and adverse health and reproductive effects in the offspring of both humans and wildlife."

The article said that Atrazine, now the most widely used pesticide in the United States, has been linked to an increased risk of ovarian cancer.

## Many children die waiting for organ transplants

By Patrick Zengerle  
Reuters

**PITTSBURGH** — The doctors treating three-year-old Zackery Gutierrez are well qualified to perform the double-organ transplant needed to make him well. But what the dark-haired boy does not realize is that his future is more in the hands of fate than his surgeons.

While Zackery spends his days waiting in a hospital, the adults around him spend their time hoping for a donor liver and small intestine of his size and AB blood type to become available before the boy is too sick to survive a transplant.

The development of sophisticated surgical techniques and powerful anti-rejection drugs have made transplants of kidneys, hearts, livers and other organs an accepted treatment for a range of diseases.

But medical breakthroughs can not fight what has become the greatest obstacle for many potential transplant recipients — the critical worldwide shortage of donor organs.

In the United States, where far more transplant operations are performed than in any other country,

only about 4,500 people donate organs each year, though an estimated 12,000 to 15,000 people die who could be considered potential donors, according to the Washington-based Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO).

There are almost 31,000 people now on U.S. transplant waiting lists tracked by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), a non-profit group in Richmond, Virginia that runs the government-sponsored organ distribution programme, and thousands more likely would benefit from such operations.

And, though donors usually provide more than one organ — AOPO said 4,549 donated 14,062 organs for transplant last year — thousands of those on U.S. waiting lists, an estimated five to six per day, will die before any become available.

"The biggest problem is we have more transplant patients than we have human organs," liver transplant pioneer Dr. Thomas Starzl said recently.

"It is a social calamity," he said.

And experts say the shortage is even more acute for children who need organ transplants, particularly

those as young as Zackery. While there are fewer children waiting for such operations — UNOS had 687 aged 10 and under registered in early April — there are even fewer who would be appropriate donors.

"Most of the donors are people who suffer some kind of a head trauma, primarily a cardiovascular accident, auto accident, or shooting," said Al Yokie, executive director of the AOPO.

"Normally, those things don't happen to children," he said.

Experts say that some families embrace the concept of organ donation to give some meaning to the senseless death of a child by saving the life of another.

But for other families, wrestling with the shocking death of a son or daughter is too much even without addressing the question of donation.

And many other potential donors are eliminated because some cultures have not embraced the concept of brain death, which allows people to be declared dead while their hearts are still beating, or worry on religious grounds that an incomplete body can not be resurrected.

And others are squeamish about transplantation for other reasons.

"They feel that if they say they want to be a donor and they are admitted to an emergency room, there will not be the same vigorous attempts to save their life," Mr. Yokie said.

So, though the large majority of Americans have told public opinion pollsters that they support organ transplants, the reality for many patients, especially children like Zackery, is months of fruitless waiting.

"You get kind of scared when you can't really do anything more for them," said Betty Gutierrez, Zackery's mother, who has moved with Zackery and her husband to Pittsburgh from their home in San Diego, California, to await a transplant.

Zackery is Betty and Eugene Gutierrez's only child.

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre is one of only a handful of places in the United States where small intestine-liver transplants are performed.

The centre became the focus of international attention for such an operation last summer, when Laura Davies, a four-year-old from Man-

chester, England, travelled here for a similar operation financed in part by Saudi Arabia's King Fahd.

Laura and Zackery both suffer from a condition known as "short-gut" syndrome, in which their intestines are unable to absorb nutrients from food.

Victims of the congenital condition can be kept alive for a few years via in-

travenous feedings with a high-nutrition solution, but the solution is so strong that it eventually weakens the children's livers, necessitating the transplant.

Laura was lucky. An appropriate pair of organs became available after she had been in Pittsburgh for less than a month.

But Zackery is less fortun-

ate. He has already been waiting here since November, and may wait even longer. It will be difficult enough to find organs to fit his little frame, but the donor also must share his relatively rare AB positive blood type.

And his condition is worsening.

Andreas Tzakis, director of pediatric transplantation at

the University of Pittsburgh,

women worldwide are fundamental to HIV prevention.

He said "an analysis of the relationship between gender and AIDS...shows clearly that male-dominated societies are a threat to public health."

Dr. Gayle said that since AIDS is spread primarily by heterosexual contact in much of the world, the conference concluded that long-standing social attitudes in some cultures, such as those toward male promiscuity and the subservience of women to men, are going to have to change dramatically if the epidemic is to be contained.

Dr. Jonathan Mann, professor of health at Harvard University's School of Public Health and director of its International AIDS Centre, told the Yaounde conference that "the role and status of

AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) is at present incurable and invariably fatal. Dr. Gayle predicts that between 30 and 40 percent of Africa's population may be infected with the AIDS virus by the end of this century.

At the recent seventh annual African regional conference on AIDS in Yaounde, Cameroon, Dr. M.H. Merson, director of the

World Health Organisation's Global AIDS Programme, said four-fifths of all patients admitted to African hospitals have HIV-related diseases, with half of them being infected with tuberculosis.

Dr. Gayle said that since AIDS is spread primarily by heterosexual contact in much of the world, the conference concluded that long-standing social attitudes in some cultures, such as those toward male promiscuity and the subservience of women to men, are going to have to change dramatically if the epidemic is to be contained.

Dr. Jonathan Mann, professor of health at Harvard University's School of Public Health and director of its International AIDS Centre, told the Yaounde conference that "the role and status of

AIDS in Africa is being replaced by complacency and a lack of coordinated and strategic leadership."

He noted that AIDS has spread rapidly in a number of countries, such as Nigeria, Paraguay, India, Burma and Thailand, that were little affected by the disease a few years ago — USIA.

## AIDS-related tuberculosis sweeping Africa — expert

By Jim Fisher-Thompson

**WASHINGTON** — The AIDS epidemic sweeping much of Africa has given new life to an ancient plague: Tuberculosis.

According to Dr. Helene Gayle, AIDS coordinator for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), tuberculosis has become "the number one opportunistic disease" attacking persons whose natural resistance has been weakened by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS.

In parts of Africa, Dr. Gayle said in a recent USIA interview, tuberculosis "has now reached epidemic proportions" and has become the "worst side effect" of AIDS worldwide.

At the recent seventh annual African regional conference on AIDS in Yaounde, Cameroon, Dr. M.H. Merson, director of the

International AIDS Centre, told the Yaounde conference that "the role and status of

AIDS in Africa is being replaced by complacency and a lack of coordinated and strategic leadership."

She told Irish state radio: "We did a nutrition survey and it gave us great cause for concern. We know that a diet that is high in total calories, high in saturated fats and low in fiber predisposes to the development of heart disease. We found that our children ate such a diet."

Doctors launched a pre-emptive strike with a survey of 1,000 children across the province who were tested for blood pressure, exercise patterns and lifestyle.

The survey of 12-year-olds showed alarmingly that 45 percent of them had at least one coronary heart disease risk factor such as high cholesterol levels, smoking, obesity or high blood pressure.

Now a follow-up survey two years later of those unhealthy teenagers has provided even more cause for concern — nearly three quarters of them have at least one of the high risk factors, 20 percent had three or more risk factors.

"We investigated 1,000 adolescents and we found unfortunately that a significant proportion had at least one major risk factor present," said Dr. Daphne Primrose of Craigavon Hospital.

"It is particularly disturbing that so many children are at risk of developing future heart disease. We found unfortunately that just two percent of children either walked or rode a bicycle to school.

"We found as well that the majority of children we surveyed hadn't taken any vigorous exercise sufficient to get them out of breath and these were children who had regular P.E. (physical education)

classes at school."

But changing habits that have been passed down from generation to generation is a huge task.

School canteens offer Irish stew, salads and pasta as healthy alternatives to the ubiquitous fry-up.

Asked what would happen if burgers, sausages and chips were taken off the menu, one school meals supervisor confessed: "We wouldn't have any customers. They would all go to the chip van at the gate or downtown."

## SOLUTIONS

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. Scientists who study the fascinating subject of names — names of places and people — to find out their origins.
2. Edgar Allan Poe.
3. A bed that may be folded or swung into a closet when not in use.
4. An entirely imaginary condition allegedly due to exhaustion of the nervous system.
5. Yes, by opening and closing their shells.
6. Non-territorial water — open to all.
7. Bull's-Eye.
8. Breton. (also called Armorican)

★ ★ ★ ★

### PUZZLES

- (1) 31, 63 (one less than successive powers of 2).
- (2) 252, 392 (the sum of successive cubes and squares).
- (3) 336, 504 (product of N, N +1 and N+2).
- (4) 18, 30 (two simple series interlocked: 18-22-26 and 22-20-18).
- (5) 40384, 362961 (factorial N plus the square of N starting with N=3).

### FIRST NAME BRAINS

By Joel Davierwe

**AROSS**  
1. Colossal  
2. Concert  
3. Displaced  
4. Drained  
5. Eaten  
6. Faded  
7. Flushed  
8. Gorged  
9. Grilled  
10. Handicapped  
11. Headache  
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WBC heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis (left) of England, boxing promoter Don King (centre) and challenger to Lewis, Tony Tucker of the U.S. pose for photographers at the end of news conference to promote May 8 fight in Las Vegas (AFP photo)

## Lewis to defend title against Tucker on May 8

NEW YORK (AP) — After flying in from London Tuesday, Lennox Lewis got caught in traffic and was an hour late for his news conference with Tony Tucker.

Lewis promised to be on time on May 8, when he defends his WBC heavyweight championship against Tucker at the Mirage in Las Vegas.

"I'll be there early," Lewis said. "I can't wait to get to Tony Tucker. He's the only thing on my mind right now. I'm going to knock him out."

Tucker claimed Lewis' tardiness showed he wasn't taking the fight seriously.

"It's an insult to me," Tucker said as his supporters shouted and cheered. "When you're getting paid \$9 million, you should at least be able to make it to a press conference on time."

Lewis-Tucker is part of a pay-per-view tripleheader that will feature two other WBC title fights — super lightweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez vs. Terence Alli and middleweight titleholder Julian Jackson Vs. Gerald McClellan.

But the focus of Tuesday's promotion was the heavyweight showdown.

Although Tucker is a former IBF champion, he is a heavy underdog against Lewis, who will be making the first defense of his WBC crown.

Lewis (22-0) was awarded the title after then-undisputed champ Riddick Bowe dumped the WBC belt in a trash can following a dispute with the sanctioning organization.

Lewis, the first British fighter in this century to hold a world heavyweight title, already has lined up a \$27 million fight in September with countryman Frank Bruno. But he insisted he isn't looking past Tucker (51-1), who won 14 straight fights since losing his IBF title to Mike Tyson in 1987 on a 12-round level.

Tucker, who didn't fight for nearly 2½ years after losing to Tyson, has overcome drug, management and hand problems to get another shot at the title.

## Dortmund in title contention

BERLIN (AP) — A goal by Matthias Sammer kept Borussia Dortmund in the title hunt as they beat Borussia Moenchengladbach 3-0 in the German soccer league.

Dortmund's win on the road in front of 34,500 left the team only two points behind the league's co-leaders, Werder Bremen and Bayern Munich.

Sammer's goal came in the 23rd minute, followed by a shot from Gerhard Poschner in 44th. Swiss national player Stephan Chapuisat added the final tally in 83rd.

In Leverkusen, Anthony Yeboah kicked in the equalizer in the 65th minute to help fourth-place Eintracht Frankfurt salvage a 1-1 draw with Bayer Leverkusen. A crowd of 15,000 watched midfielder Guido Hoffman stake the home team to an early lead by scoring in the 12th minute.

Saarbruecken, midfielder Eduard Buckmaier kicked the only goal in the 27th minute as the home team lot to Wattenscheid 1-0.

## Zafonic may be hottest favourite at Newmarket

NEWMARKET, England (R) — French colt Zafonic may start as the hottest favourite since Nijinsky more than 20 years ago for the English 2,000 Guineas horse racing classic Saturday.

Zafonic, the mount of former champion jockey Pat Eddery, is down to 8-11 despite a disappointing defeat last time out. Nijinsky started at 4-7 in 1970.

Trained by Andre Fabre, Zafonic appeared to be the best Juvenile in Europe last season after emphatic victories at the highest level.

But the colt suffered a shock defeat in a Guineas warm-up race in Paris, prompting bookmakers to push him out to 2-1 against.

He became odds on favourite, however, after a series of inconclusive trials in England failed to produce any outstanding contenders.

An excellent gallop at the weekend also boosted punters' confidence in Prince Khalid Abdullah's horse.

Soft ground contributed to Zafonic's defeat at Maisons-

Laffite but it is unlikely to be a factor over the Newmarket mile.

The next three in the betting, Wharf, Barathea and Chaddsworth, have received little support from backers recently.

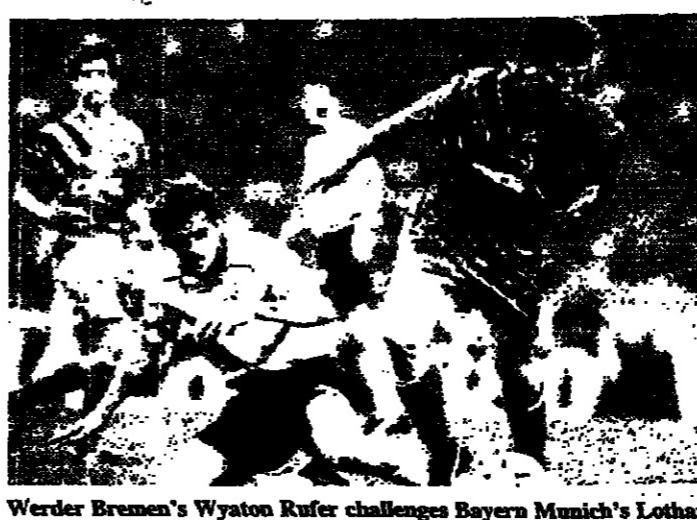
The trio finished second, fourth and sixth earlier this month in the Craven Stakes, often a first-rate guide to the Guineas.

But none is seen as winner material, although Barathea will be ridden by champion Jockey Michael Roberts.

Wharf, with Walter Swinburn on board, is currently second favourite at 8-1, followed by 9-1 chances Barathea and Chaddsworth.

The traditional three-day meeting starts Thursday with the first of the season's five classics, the 1,000 Guineas for fillies.

Elizabeth Bay, the 2-1 favourite, could deliver a famous double for France and trainer Fabre, although she was also beaten in her warm-up race at Maisons-



Werder Bremen's Wynton Rufer challenges Bayern Munich's Lothar Matthaeus (right) during the first division match Tuesday (AFP photo)

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY MAY 1, 1993

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY MAY 1, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** This is a good day to be in touch with friends and to find out how they feel about your relationship with them and how it can be improved.

Add to your securing benefits by repaying some social obligations.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Interesting friends and acquaintances will give you considerable support if you request it from them after getting rid of obligations that irk.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) A demanding associate takes up some of your morning but later you are able to get at whatever vocational or community interests are yours, handle them successfully.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Get essential chores quickly out of the way early for then you have it in your power to bring some new activities into your life to expand.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Put yourself out early to handle that money matter for all once this is done you find you can be off to some amusements that bring you delight.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You have a personal matter to settle before you start to handle those family situations that require you have a fresh and original approach at them.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) You can put a sparkle in any communications or correspondence you have today after getting rid of a secret anxiety that has been bugging you.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) You have a personal wish or issue that bothers you to be solved and then you will be able to get into doing what undermines your property, budget.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have an outside matter to take care of after which your aspects are excellent for going after the unusual and original goals you have.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) A matter from afar claims your attention early but then get into whatever private dreams you have from an entirely new and radical approach and you get them.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Glasbergen

GLASBERGEN



"You left me a tip! Does this mean my kisses are improving?"

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY APRIL 30, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Take the time to see both sides of whatever problems face you as the Moon square Pluto and opposition to Saturn limit your chances for a right settlement.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Don't try to expand your assets too much but make sure that you have studied and gotten them so they will yield you good and regular returns for your efforts.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Get into the nitty-gritty of any agreements with those whom you have any agreement, written or tacit, and later you get big results of value.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Your work may seem to have some flaws and mistakes which need to be corrected before you go forward then you can have long-time beneficial results.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) It would be unwise to commit yourself to some extravagant recreation during the daytime as tonight finds you enjoying long accepted pleasures.

**LEO:** (July 22 August 21) Your work load seems to be more than you can handle but schedule your hours sensibly and you find you are easy to make headway you do wish.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21) Give special attention to the special gifts you are trying to make useable and although they start out

to be difficult, by nightfall you have conquered any obstacles.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Decide what you want to do at home tonight during the daytime and then put this plan in effect with tact, diplomacy to please your own household.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Don't be upset if it is early difficult to contact persons with whom you want to communicate for you find it easy later so get in touch with them.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Some practical problems seem to have elements connected with them that make it impossible for you to accomplish what you wish but persevere.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Think out with more care what you want and don't be discouraged that you do not at once see ways to obtain but they slowly but definitely unfold as you wish.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have tasks to perform that only you can do so get them out of the way today so that you will be able to gain advancement you want tonight.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You have best work alone to bring your aims closer to yourself during the daytime but tonight long-time support will give you added boost you need.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 29-30, 1993 7

**Financial Markets** **Jordan Times**  
In co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank  
U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound*	1.5753	1.5750
Deutsche Mark	1.5847	1.5872
Swiss Franc	1.4270	1.4295
French Franc	5.3468	5.3835 **
Japanese Yen	111.75	111.88
European Currency Unit	1.2315	1.2255 **

\* USD per STG

\*\* Euro opening @ 8.00 a.m. GMT

Eurocurrency Interest Rates Date: 28/4/1993

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.06	3.09	3.15	3.45
Sterling Pound	6.06	5.67	5.93	6.06
Deutsche Mark	7.81	7.68	7.37	6.75
Swiss Franc	5.25	4.87	4.69	4.37
French Franc	8.37	8.12	7.87	7.25
Japanese Yen	3.21	3.15	3.25	3.28
European Currency Unit	8.62	8.43	8.25	7.69

Interest rate for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals	Dates
Metal USD/Oz JD/Gm* Metal USD/Oz JD/Gm	28/4/1993

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin	Dates
Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6830
Sterling Pound	1.0758
Deutsche Mark	0.4299
Swiss Franc	0.4766
French Franc	0.1274
Japanese Yen*	0.6100
Dutch Guilder	0.5824
Swedish Krona	0.0937
Italian Lira*	0.0461
Belgian Franc	0.02089

\* Per 100

Other Currencies	Dates
Currency	Bid
Bahrain Dinar	1.7920
Lebanese Lira*	0.03850
Saudi Riyal	0.1818
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2240
Qatari Riyal	0.1844
Egyptian Pound	0.1950
Oman Riyal	1.7410
UAE Dirham	0.1844
Greek Drachma*	0.3162
Cypriot Pound	1.4540

\* Per 100

CAE Indices for Amman Financial Market*	26/4/1993 Close	27/4/1993 Close
All-Share	198.19	198.76
Banking Sector	157.98	157.69
Insurance Sector	213.48	213.48
Industry Sector	262.34	262.27
Services Sector	259.19	262.13

## NEW PRODUCT FROM LOEWE

AMMAN — Director of Abu Shagra commercial establishment, Raed Abu Shakra, at a press conference Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel announced that the establishment will launch on the market a new line of Spanish Loewe perfumes: Esencia Loewe for men and Aire Loewe for women.

Mr. Mil. S. Illich, international development manager for Loewe Perfumes, said:

First established in 1846, by the turn of the century, Loewe had come to stand for the highest quality in leather goods. After receiving a royal warrant in 1905, by 1920, Loewe was the finest shop in Madrid.

Today, Loewe also stands for fashion, travel, gifts, accessories and... perfume. The Loewe style has its own special perfumes too.

**ESENCIA LOEWE**  
Eau de Toilette for Men

It has more than 200 olfactory notes, from which, in the beginning, emerge the lightest and most fresh odours of Petit grain and Citronier from Calabria. Then you perceive its permanent body notes, spiced, fragrant and up to date, such as Tarragon, Nutmeg, Rose from Brazil and Cassis.

Loewe is a fragrance which, because of its contrasting chords, achieves the balance between the Mediterranean hedonism and the neorenaissance taste, deeply sensual and of an almost oriental refinement.

The essence symbolises this

classic and innovative style so true to Loewe.

Loewe Essence is a decidedly masculine fragrance, which reaches a perfect balance between classicism and innovation.

Loewe Essence for men is a classic, because of its refinement and sensitivity. Because it is original and unique, it is contemporary. Loewe Essence is a contemporary classic.

Mr. Omran R. Malki, vice-president of National Marketing Co. said:

"When AIRE LOEWE was introduced, its conception was based on the conviction that there was a vacant space on the Mediterranean perfume market."

Studies showed that this perfume, non-existent as yet, would fulfil the desires and preferences shown by a significant part of our market and, moreover, that the products already launched responded to contrary aspirations. The fashion of the time was then dominated by intense, powerful, seductive perfumes.

A few months after its launching, AIRE LOEWE became the leader in the feminine sector of Spanish exclusive perfumes.

AIRE LOEWE has become a true classic, enjoying great popularity, a star among Spanish exclusive perfumes and, of course, one of Loewe's gems.

To create AIRE LOEWE was inspired by the personality of the modern woman, AIRE transmits another way of life, carefree, extrovert, dynamic, with a touch of sensitivity and fragility AIRE LOEWE.

# Planning minister admits government failure to adequately inform public about sales tax

By Samir Shafiq  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A public rally held Tuesday evening at the Professional Associations Complex to debate the contentious sales tax issue failed to tackle the subject in a sensible, intelligent and decent manner as the atmosphere was basically confrontational amid an unwillingness by the nearly thousand attendees to seek better understanding of what the government had to say or explain.

The government, represented by the ministers of planning and supply and the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and other officials, was heavily hammered and cornered to the extent that the minister of planning

could not help but say that he was tricked into accepting to attend and address the rally.

Both the minister and the CBJ governor left at the end of the rally complaining of "demagogism" and voicing disapproval to the statement of the rally coordinator that the public had unreasonably rejected the sales tax.

Ziyad Fariz, the planning minister, had obviously viewed the rally as a forum to intellectual, organised and comprehensive discussions on the sales tax but many speakers from the audience were totally off the line.

One member of the audience, apparently a member of the Islamic Liberation Front, contented

by trying to restructure the Jordanian economy the authorities were endorsing Arab divisions, confirming the Sykes-Picot geographic dismemberment of the region and impeding the emergence of a united Arab economic structure under an Islamic caliphate domain.

Another man said in his intervention that he was not interested in Jordan's economic future because what he wanted to see was only the confiscation of the property of all those who were responsible for the Kingdom's economic woes in 1989.

Tayseer Zibri, secretary general of the Jordan People's Democratic Party, made a brief statement that showed oratory talent but offered nothing substantial to what was supposed to be an economic reasoning of why or why not should a sales tax be introduced.

Reducing the tariff on some imports has alarmed the Chamber of Industry which sought to keep local industries protected at the highest possible rate.

The minister said the industrialists were given haphazard levels of protection in previous years but he pledged that the government would ensure from now on that all industries receive a real minimum 30 per cent rate of protection that could, under special circumstances, rise to 50 per cent maximum.

Walid Khatib, general manager of the Chamber of Industry, said: "How can we trust such a pledge if it is not specifically stated in the proposed sales tax law?"

Dr. Fariz repeatedly urged the public to support an "unharmful" sales tax but he did not go beyond the sales tax into other stages which will see a wide implementation of a value-added-tax.

Hamez Haddad, a lawyer and a professor of law at the University of Jordan, pointed out the numerous gaps in the four drafts of the sales tax.

Mr. Shbeilat accused the government of having intentionally avoided a parliamentary debate of the sales tax and of trying to keep the issue far from public knowledge.

Dr. Fariz acknowledged that the sales tax was not put to the public through appropriate channels and that the information about it was often distorted and not accurately carried by the newspapers. He said a comprehensive coverage about the subject on television would be considered.

Deputy Laith Shbeilat warned against being emotionally carried away into accepting the sales tax.

"You let this tax pass and I'll say 'Mahrouk,' not for this first stage alone, but also for a host of higher taxes that will be imposed in the future of the basis of the authorisation included in this sales tax," Mr. Shbeilat told the audience.

Mr. Shbeilat called on the public to reject the tax describing it as being part of Western policies aimed at controlling world markets and lifting all barriers that

restrict the flow of Western goods to Third World countries.

The deputy described the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as neo-colonialists, "although the weaponry has changed over the years to become controlling the economic survival of Third World countries."

Mr. Shbeilat accused the government of having intentionally avoided a parliamentary debate of the sales tax and of trying to keep the issue far from public knowledge.

Dr. Fariz acknowledged that the sales tax was not put to the public through appropriate channels and that the information about it was often distorted and not accurately carried by the newspapers. He said a comprehensive coverage about the subject on television would be considered.

The minister rebuked the general manager of the consumer protection society for organising the public rally and told him that such a sensitive and important subject should not have been discussed at such a gathering.

"I know how consumer protection societies function and it would have been better if your organisation focused on guiding the public to improve their buying behaviour," the minister said.

## Economy poses greater threat to Iraqi president than rebels

By Jane Arraf  
Reuter

AMMAN — Empty shops, uneasy traders and a free-falling currency are posing more of a threat to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein than any potential coup, diplomats and analysts say.

On the streets and in the corridors of power, President Saddam appears firmly in command.

Diplomats said despite scattered incidents of unrest in Baghdad they had no evidence to back reports of a recent coup attempt against the Iraqi leader.

But if there are threats to his position, they will come from an economy which has shown signs of slipping out of control in the last week, analysts said.

"Potentially it's a very destabilising situation," said one Western diplomat who viewed the economy as a bigger problem to the Iraqi leader than Shi'ite or Kurdish rebels.

The dinar is officially worth \$3.20 but has little gold or foreign exchange to back it. Factories are lying idle because of lack of spare parts while Iraq's immense oil reserves are kept off the market by the U.N. sanctions.

"Sanctions are holding Iraq's economy hostage. Saddam is getting by but he is having problems," said an economic analyst, adding that the economy would splinter if the crisis further alienated the important private sector.

After Iraq executed 42 businessmen accused of profiteering last year, many traders, already suffering from a drop in the dinar, simply stopped shipping goods to Baghdad.

This time, traders said Baghdad businessmen closed their shops to avoid losses Sunday after the dinar plunged, reopening only after a government order.

No one believes that Iraqis

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## Bosnia's war zones erupt as peace plan founders

SARAJEVO (R) — Fresh battles erupted in Bosnia between Muslims, Croats and Serbs Wednesday in defiance of a ceasefire and international efforts to end the civil war.

British peacekeeping troops based in the town of Vitez in central Bosnia said Muslims and Croats were fighting between the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) about 150 Serb troops backed by 10 tanks and artillery launched an offensive Tuesday.

It said the northeastern Muslim town of Gradacac was under heavy Serb attack for the second successive day and that its industrial zone was on fire.

The scale of fighting has risen sharply since Bosnia's refusal to accept an international peace plan signed by rival Muslims and Croats.

Frustrated by failure to end a conflict that has caused thousands of deaths and made many more people homeless, the United Nations tightened sanctions against Serbian-led Yugoslavia for failing to persuade Bosnia's Serbs to accept the plan.

World leaders are considering tougher action to get the rebel Serbs to accept the plan to divide Bosnia into 10 provinces, largely along ethnic lines.

In Washington, President Bill Clinton began a round of consultations with U.S. legislators on possible military action in the Balkans with no sign of a consensus emerging.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher told a Senate appropriations hearing Tuesday that air strikes against Serb aggression in Bosnia were among the options being considered.

"I am perfectly personally quite prepared to see the United States use force not only there but any place around the world," he said. "But it has to meet some very severe tests."

Mr. Christopher set out four conditions if air strikes were to be used to force Bosnian Serbs to accept a peace agreement.

They were a clearly understandable goal, the mission's like-success, public support and "an exit strategy" so that U.S. forces would not become bogged down in a Balkan quagmire.

Sarajevo Radio said Gradacac suffered its worst day for weeks Tuesday when at least three people were killed in a barrage of shell and rocket attacks.

UNPROFOR spokesman Pepe Gallegos told reporters in Sarajevo the conflict between Muslim and Croats around Vitez, Zenica and Travnik was sporadic but pitched battles were continuing elsewhere in the region.

"Inter-village fighting persists in the Busovaca, Kacuni and Kisieljak valleys," he added. "I think the forces in that area are preparing to fight."

U.N. aid official John MacMillan said representatives of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the besieged Muslim town of Srebrenica in east Bosnia were reporting some clashes outside it between Muslim and Serb forces.

UNPROFOR said the Serbs had taken three villages north of Bihać near Bosnia's northwestern border with Croatia in Tuesday's offensive.

French Defence Minister Francois Leotard threatened Wednesday to pull French troops out of former Yugoslavia because of the way the United Nations runs its peacekeeping operations.

"If questions as important and as basic as the definition of missions, clarity, in the chain of command and adequate financing ... are not resolved, we will review the presence there of all or part of our forces," he told the National Assembly.

on aid from the U.N. in the Bihać area.

They said the refugees had no outlet from the Bihać areas and risked being trapped.

President Clinton is considering new U.S.-led moves to end the civil war in Bosnia but is not expected to announce a decision before next week, press secretary Dee Dee Myers said Wednesday.

"Consultations are ongoing," Ms. Myers said, referring to discussions with European allies and members of Congress.

Although Mr. Clinton told reporters Monday that he expected to announce tougher measures within "several days" to force Bosnian Serbs to accept peace terms, Ms. Myers said, "I think it's unlikely it will happen this week."

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British army medics based in Vitez, Bosnia, remove burnt remains of two Muslim civilians from their home (AFP photo)

## Army retakes Kashmir police HQ

SRINAGAR, India (R) — Indian soldiers stormed the Kashmir Police Headquarters in Srinagar Wednesday and ended its takeover by striking policemen without resistance, Police Chief B.S. Bedi said.

He said the troops surrounded the complex Tuesday after the strikers locked the gates in protest over the death of a colleague. They struck shortly before dawn.

"There was no resistance," Mr. Bedi told Reuters.

Reporters allowed into the large complex, which includes barracks, said between 1,500 and 2,000 disarmed policemen were assembled in the main compound.

They were to be paraded before militants turned informants, usually hooded and known as "cats", to see whether any anti-Indian rebels were among them.

The Kashmir police, mostly Muslims with largely Hindu or Sikh officers, have been sidelined during the three-year rebellion against Indian rule of the Himalayan region.

Senior government and security force officials have made no secret of their distrust of Kashmiri police throughout the bloody strife in Jammu and Kashmir, the only Muslim-majority state in overwhelmingly Hindu India.

They have said frequently in private that they suspect militants will help from the police, who went on strike Friday alleging that a colleague was killed in army custody.

The strikers took over the headquarters in Srinagar, Jammu

and Kashmir's summer capital, Tuesday. It was quickly ringed by heavily-armed soldiers and paramilitary police.

Late Tuesday, the army took over all other police facilities in the state and disarmed the men there, officials said.

The government declared a round-the-clock curfew in Srinagar and the other main towns of the Kashmir Valley.

Extra troops and paramilitary police were put onto Srinagar streets to enforce the curfew. Army armoured personnel carriers took up position at intersections.

Officials who asked not to be identified said the government feared widespread protests in support of the police.

## Prince Andrew gets a boat

PORSCHE, England (AP) — Prince Andrew, the second son of Queen Elizabeth II, took command of a Royal Navy warship and said he was eager to show his daughters around.

Prince Andrew, 33, who holds the rank of lieutenant commander, was put on charge of HMS Cottesmore, a 625-tonne mine-hunter.

King Gary was the Khmer Rouge's chief propagandist when they took Cambodia down a Maoist path that turned every citizen into a farm labourer and abolished cities and money.

Son Sen the high executioner of the regime as security chief.

Ta Mok, known to Cambodians as "the butcher", is a general who still runs vast swathes of northern Cambodia.

The Thai source said the meeting took place at Chong Barane, 10 kilometres inside Cambodia across from the Thai border town Ta Phraya.

## Swedish royals visit memorial of fallen monarch

LUETZEN, Germany (AP) — King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden paid tribute to a fallen Swedish monarch Wednesday as they toured the eastern state of Saxony-Anhalt at the mid-point of their three-day official visit to Germany.

The West is insisting on the primacy of individual rights while the other side, notably Iran, argues that these rights are not universal but culture-dependent, and reject interference in the internal affairs of a state.

Also Tuesday, non-governmental organisations active in the defence of human rights threatened to boycott the World Conference on Human Rights scheduled for June in Vienna.

According to Adama Dieng, secretary-general of the International Commission of Jurists, the post carries the danger of "political nominations."

Amid shaky preparations in Geneva for the Vienna rights conference, the American ambassador warned that if a unified platform did not emerge by Friday the level of the delegations would be lowered.

Mr. Blackwell was alluding to a dispute pitting Western nations, supported by eastern Europe and the bulk of Africa, against about a dozen countries mainly in Asia and the Middle East, including

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The plight of Muslims in Bosnia has grabbed centre stage at the meeting in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi, which began on Sunday and is to end on Thursday, and has produced unanimous condemnation of the Serbs.

But the issue of "terrorism" has revealed a split through the Islamic community.

On one side are states like

## ANC militant wants action as talks flounder

CAPE TOWN (R) — An ANC militant said Wednesday blacks disappointed by lack of progress at floundering South African democracy talks should short-circuit negotiations and take over local government services.

Tony Yengeni, Western Cape secretary of the African National Congress (ANC), said a proposed programme of mass action for democracy would focus in Cape Town on improving the living standards of blacks left trailing by apartheid.

"If we don't make progress

now, the stage will be set for a tremendous social explosion," he said at a news conference.

Government spokesman Izak Retief said a 10-member planning committee would meet in Johannesburg Thursday to explore strategies to keep multi-party democracy talks on track.

He said the committee would prepare for Friday's resumption of bargaining amongst 26 parties including the government, the ANC and the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party.

"Friday's meeting will be very

## Zambian plane with soccer team crashes into sea

LUSAKA (AP) — Shock, grief and disbelief is gripping Lusaka as news of the death of the national football team spreads through the Zambian capital.

A Zambia Air Force plane carrying 18 of the country's best players and five Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) officials crashed after a refuelling stop in Gabon.

National radio played solemn music immediately after announcing the news.

A visibly shaken Minister of Sport Dipar Patel, stormed out of his office for a meeting with Vice President Levy Mwanawasa to discuss the disaster.

"He has received confirmation that the plane crashed last night and so far they have not found anything not even the wreckage of the plane... it is possible that

no one survived," said Mr. Patel's secretary.

Reports from the Gabonese capital, Libreville, say several bodies had been brought ashore by mid-morning and that there were no traces of survivors.

Divers also recovered sports bags and police were trying to make an inventory.

The news comes as President Frederick Chiluba is in Uganda on an official visit.

This is the first major disaster in Zambia's sport history. The team was flying in a Zambian Air Force Buffalo CT15 plane that flew them from Mauritius Monday.

On the streets of Lusaka, some people wept openly as the news of the crash spread, and a sports journalist at the Times of Zambia collapsed with shock.

the same performance. The team want another win away," said Mwape.

The team included five international-based players, including Kelvin Mutale, who plays for Saudi Arabia's El Ettifaq. He said all the three goals against Mauritius.

Other professional players are Derby Makinza (also El Ettifaq); Robert Watyakeni, South Africa's Dynamos FC; Godfrey Kangwa, who plays in Morocco, and Samuel Chomba, who also plays for a South Africa team.

The squad was expected to be joined Wednesday by three Europe-based international strikers, Kalusha Bwalya (PSV Eindhoven of Holland), Johnson Bwalya (Bulle FC of Switzerland), and Charles Musonda of Anderlecht in Belgium.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### 11 U.S. diplomats to get ambassadorships

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton announced plans to nominate 11 career foreign service officers as ambassadors. "These ambassadors are a talented and experienced group who will, I am sure, represent our country's interests ably," Mr. Clinton said. Those to be named ambassadors are: Howard Jeter, Botswana; William Ramsey, Congo; Peter Romero, Ecuador; Alan Flanagan, El Salvador; Andrew Winter, Gambia; Aurelia Brazeal, Kenya; William Dameron, Mali; Dennis Jett, Mozambique; John Davidson, Niger; John Sprott, Swaziland; and Peter Rawson Rwanda. Mr. Clinton also announced he would nominate Steve Honigman, a former member of the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps, as General counsel for the navy.

### Soares gets royal welcome in U.K.

LONDON (AP) — Prince Charles and his estranged wife Princess Diana shared a table at a lavish state banquet Tuesday for Portuguese President Mario Soares. The grand occasion in the Buckingham Palace ballroom was their first joint official engagement this year, and the second since they announced their separation in December. In keeping with custom, the couple entered separately and sat several seats apart at the dinner, hosted by Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Philip. Guests included Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and the queen's sister, Princess Margaret, Prince Andrew, Princess Anne, members of the government, ambassadors and prominent business people. In a speech after dinner, the queen recalled the Anglo-Portuguese Treaty of Windsor, signed in 1386, which makes Portugal Britain's oldest ally. "That alliance is only the most obvious illustration of the depth and affection of a friendship which we in Britain greatly treasure and which we hope will long continue," she said. It is the first state visit to Britain by a Portuguese head of state in 15 years.

### Armenians, Azeris in new clash

MOSCOW (AP) — Armenian troops backed by tanks launched an offensive in the Aghdam region of western Azerbaijan but were repelled by Azeri forces, the Azerbaijan Defense Ministry said. Two Azeri soldiers were killed and five wounded in the attack, while the Armenians suffered an unknown number of casualties, the Assa-Irads News Agency quoted the ministry as saying. The Armenian forces also targeted villages near Zangelan in south-east Azerbaijan near the border with Armenia, according to Baku. The new fighting in the five-year-old conflict ended a lull of several days as the two sides observed an informal truce during a visit to the region by a delegation from the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Meanwhile the Azerbaijani news agency Turan reported that Russia's special envoy to talk on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Vladimir Kazimirov, was expected in Baku Wednesday. Kazimirov is expected to propose a peace plan on the conflict that Turan said has already been rejected by the Azerbaijan authorities.

### Angola ceasefire pact agreed

LONDON (R) — Portuguese President Mario Soares said Wednesday he had received a report that a ceasefire in Angola's civil war had been agreed at peace talks in Abidjan. Mr. Soares, in an address to a meeting of British members of parliament, said he had received a telegram Wednesday morning telling him that the ceasefire agreement had been signed in Abidjan, capital of Ivory Coast. "If that is true, I do congratulate them because it is a first step towards peace and development," said Mr. Soares, speaking through an interpreter. Portugal is the former colonial ruler of Angola.

### Head of American Muslim Council dies

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dr. Mahmoud Abu Sand, chairman of the American Muslim Council who campaigned for harmony among Muslims, Jews and Christians, has died in England, the council disclosed Tuesday. An announcement said the 82-year-old Abu Sand died of a heart attack last Saturday in Birmingham while on a speaking tour. Mr. Abu Sand was born in Sudan of Egyptian parents and served as a banking official in a number of Muslim countries. He lived in Panama City, Florida. In speeches he called for a dialogue between the "three Abrahamic faiths" of Judaism, Islam and Christianity.

### Clinton receives Dalai Lama

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton met with the Dalai Lama of Tibet and expressed his support for human rights in China, the White House said. The Buddhist leader was at the White House to see Vice President Al Gore. Mr. Clinton walked by Mr. Gore's office and talked briefly to the Dalai Lama. "I don't think he thanked him for his support for human rights in China," spokesman George Stephanopoulos said. The U.S. supports protection of human rights and distinct cultural identity for Tibetans, but recognises Tibet as politically part of China.

### Gunfire, crowds greet Pakistan premier

PESHAWAR (R) — Celebratory gunfire and huge crowds greeted Pakistan's sacked Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif when he led his campaign against President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to the North West Frontier Province early Wednesday. "We will throw him out with the power of the people," Mr. Sharif told a rally in the provincial capital Peshawar. The president, who hails from the province, dismissed Mr. Sharif's 30-month-old government 10 days ago on charges ranging from terrorising his opponents to doing out favours to cronies. Cheering supporters brandishing Kalashnikov rifles fired hundreds of rounds into the air when Mr. Sharif arrived in the early hours of the morning at a rally in a city square. The firing continued for several minutes while the crowd shouted slogans denouncing Mr. Ishaq Khan for dismissing Mr. Sharif.

### KARACHI (AFP) — Muslim countries, often accused of

fomenting "terrorism" against the West, are now grappling with how to handle attacks aimed at one another.

One suggestion has been to improve their economies, an idea to which many are finally turning, said a senior United Nations diplomat. "It is the most controversial issue we're dealing with" here, at the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers' meeting, said Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.